

APIA IS HOME — PRESTON IS PRESSING!

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SOCCER

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WEEKLY

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A RACE FOR SEMIS!

SOUTH MELBOURNE's
Socceroo International
PAUL WADE clear in
front of team-mate
STEVE BLAIR (obscured)
and Heidelberg's
LAWRIE MCKINNA.

Photo — Les Shorrock



BY KEITH GILMOUR

APIA the champions —
and what a story!

● Preston Makedonia
whipped Apia 4-0 with
three class goals from
Goce Dimovski.

● Melbourne Croatia
did Apia an unsolicited
favour by fielding an
unregistered player on
August 23.

And now Croatia,
with 21 games played
and a bye to come have
dropped from third to
seventh due to the de-
duction of a vital point.

After a huge season's
budget the wonderfully en-
dowed Melbourne side
might well be as good as
out of the semi-finals.

The way things were
shaping Melbourne was
looking at the strong
possibility of having Pre-
ston, Melbourne Croatia
and South Melbourne in
the final five.

But now on our calcula-
tions the top contenders
are APIA-Leichhardt, Pre-
ston Makedonia, Marconi,
South Melbourne Hellas
and St George.

Sydney Olympic will
need to mount a super-
human campaign to make
the grade, but it is not
beyond them.

St George on 22 points
are looking quite convinc-
ing with Brunswick,
Footscray and Heidelberg

to meet at home and Ade-
laide City away.

Melbourne Croatia's
faux pas deprived Preston
Makedonia of whatever
slim hopes they had to up-
setting APIA.

Pressing

Preston coach Ernie
Merrick wasn't even
dreaming of the

Continued to page 7

MAIN CITIES NEED MUCH MORE EXPOSURE IN NSL

Writes Rale Rasic, coach of Australian champions, APIA-Leichhardt

IF PERTH gets a place in the National Soccer League I reckon
that they would need to be given three years without the prospect
of relegation to settle in.

Personally I don't know of all the ifs and buts of their case, but I was
impressed by the showing put up on their behalf by Nick Tanna on television.

For away games by Eastern clubs it would mean flying across to Perth on
Friday, playing on Saturday and then returning home.

In addition, to have a real national competition I believe we must have
another team from Adelaide.

One Adelaide club isn't sufficient when you look at the population and
support that two clubs can bring.

At the same time there has to be strong support for one Brisbane club.
Queensland produces some outstanding players and their state team al-
ways puts on a big showing with its parochial support.

The NSL has proved to be very demanding, the players have undertaken
extra training and they are good ambassadors for the game.

What is needed is an expansion of the system.

WINFIELD SOCCEROOS RUN TOWARDS OLYMPICS ... Page 3

A tremendous amount of toing and froing is going on in the background over the play-offs for the vacant place in the 1988 West End National Soccer League and related matters.

Adelaide Hellas is raring to go in with the Queensland winners, who have other local commitments which delay their availability as they meet the end of season requirements of the Queensland Soccer Federation.

Then there is the complication that likely Victorian State League champions Maribynong Polonia lack the funds to contemplate taking up an NSL position.

And that is only part of the story. They had to halve contract payments to their players during the year and change coaches.

In addition the club admits that its future is limited. It is likely to merge or arrange to be taken over, which in plain terms could well mean that it may not survive.

Wollongong City has the honour of going up from the position available to the NSW-ACT winner.

With no guarantee of staying in the league, the club has to raise tremendous money to meet the affiliation fees, player and ground costs and so on.

Canberra, Blacktown and Melita reckon they deserve an NSL position and feel they could finance it.

It seems certain that no other NSW club would give a moment's thought to promotion.

There is a general feeling amongst the interested NSW clubs that, despite the benefits of the proposed Perth club, they have rights to consideration if vacancies occur.

The Perth group believe they can raise funds from what would be a close-knit local Italian community, provided four State League clubs agree to combine as expected.

If Perth comes in it is certain that existing clubs will want a very long term commitment that they meet the travel costs of visitors from other states, providing of course that Perth maintains its place.

Even allowing that some airways deals might be done, the \$50,000 that the Western Australians are initially offering as a travel subsidy is a drag on their funds and their ability to field a strong side.

There is of course the possibility that Brisbane could be back on the NSL deck, which would further extend travel costs.

If anyone had a doubt over the financial demands on clubs in the present National League it would have been erased by the league's own statements - that the futures of some half of its member clubs are in jeopardy unless they meet the fees that are overdue.

This of course could be a ploy, pressing some clubs to pay monies due which they would otherwise delay whilst more pressing accounts are met.

Certainly there must be some admiration for clubs who commit themselves so deeply in order to provide top class football.

But it would be foolish to assume that there is not a deal more behind the NSL plea.

Rarely if ever does the public see any sport publicly press its own member clubs to meet their debts.

Some clubs are going to their communities with strong approaches to raise funds to carry them on.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY itself has just had an approach from a leading official of one of Australia's top clubs, making in the most earnest of terms a plea that the NSL be regionalised once again. And from the NSW sector that club is not alone.

This club's homework indicates that it would be far more viable if it was able to contest a high standard regional league.

Other clubs are depending upon a few enthusiasts to carry them on.

It can be argued that by securing better grounds clubs could overcome some present problems, and hopefully some will be able to do so.

It is not our purpose to exaggerate the situation. At the same time the degree of trouble must not be understated in the best interests of the future of the game.

There seems little doubt that the NSL would do well to have a close look at the financial statements of its members as soon as it can be arranged.

Clubs need evaluation on their achievements, and financial stability must be part of the scene.

Their financial viability cannot be simply gauged by the ability - or otherwise - to meet commitments to the league itself.

No matter in which way the NSL and various leading clubs move, over the years will come an increasing realisation that soccer like other sports must more and more become wholesome family entertainment if it is to succeed.

It will be the clubs who grasp this vital principle that will be there in the end, no matter whether it is necessary to look ten and even twenty years ahead.

IT'S the right time to summarise some main events in the NSW State Bank League this season.

So firstly congratulations to Wollongong City on their win and promotion, because winning a championship is never easy.

Now I'd like to review also the performances of the other top clubs, Canberra City, Blacktown City and Melita Eagles.

Canberra didn't begin with a deal of ambition, but it grew dramatically as the season went.

A lot of people have pointed them out to me as the most attractive side, so congratulations to Augusto Palacios for the way he turned their usual style into something quite exciting.

Palacios performed brilliantly as a footballer. Had it not been for his injury the club might well have walked the league in.

Promotionally and as the national capital Canberra has everything to offer in soccer. The National League needs a top team from Canberra.

Oh! So Close

Melita Eagles over the past five years have proved themselves one of Sydney's most successful Soccer clubs.

Have a look at their off

the field achievements. There is the splendid grandstand, VIP boxes, dressing rooms, canteen and the floodlighting.

They have promoted the game and brought through a supply of their own juniors.

Recognition has come from people involved in soccer.

Their play is always attractive. Their committee works exceptionally hard, they do things in style and they fulfil their obligations.

Having listed such a catalogue of excellent attributes, it is appropriate to examine why they haven't succeeded in big company.

The extra that Melita has lacked has revolved around their failure to find the courage to go out and sign those extra two or three high quality players that decide the club's direction.

Look at just some of the present day players and those of yesteryear who had the capacity to go out and change the course of events for their clubs.

They include Ian Wallace (Melbourne Croatia), Dixie Deans (Adelaide City), Peter Raskopoulos, Vicente Estavillo and Marshall Soper on his day (Sydney Olympic), Roberto Vieri, Ray Richards (Marconi), Johnny Warren,

Manfred Schaefer (St George) and at APIA, Tony Pezzano, Charlie Yankos and Arno Bertogna.

If any criticism therefore can be levelled at Melita it concerns their getting too many Mr Average players - a few stars and they won't look back.

This year Blacktown City were early favourites. They brought to fruition their much-cherished youth policy and showed their ambition by securing Les Scheinling as coach.

But they fell into the same trap as Melita did - lacking the final punch when it was required.

Losses to teams such as Uruguayan Penrith, Inter Monaro and Canberra twice showed that something went wrong.

Blacktown is ambitious to play in top company.

Pre-season and early season they did so well, but then they paid the price of being not quite mature enough.

Having been promoted as likely champions, they could not deliver when it came to the point.

It turned out that Wollongong City were mentally and physically the strongest team, under the leadership of their coach John Fleming.

So now it is up to them to do the right thing which will call for making the right reinforcements to the present squad for their NSL return.

This year, when they reached the top and slipped, they still had the character to charge back again.

Wollongong's position in soccer is an interesting study in itself.

For example you can go back to the Jim Kelly era when they had a big British

NSL Play-off

contingent and when they really did things in style.

A few years ago they recruited the Uruguayans Saul Rivero and Leonel Arcosa.

Unfortunately this did not solve their situation. Rivero was a great success, but after a run of injuries he could only attend to the free kick department and left it at that.

What can Wollongong do? It will call for supreme judgment, recruiting and financing.

I hear that they will have a new ground just north of the city in Brandon Park, with a 3,000 seat stand and their own separate training grounds.

But, looking back at those top NSW clubs we have seen Wollongong, Blacktown, Melita and Canberra narrowly miss the cut-off point in the past.

Hopefully Wollongong will learn from those mistakes and the others will continue with their ambitions.

BIG FAMILY SUNDAY FOR THE SAINTS

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

THE St George management has hit on the bargain of the century to bring in a very sizeable attendance for Sunday's Brunswick Juventus game at St George Stadium.

Look at this for unbeatable value!

A family of dad, mum, one child, and another in club gear will be admitted for \$1.

And, with Saints playing aggressive, crowd-pleasing football, there should be a big turn up from the huge numbers of families involved in soccer in St George Soccer Association and surrounding districts.

On the playing front Andy Koczka, St George Budapest's captain, will be battling during the week to grab a spot for the clash.

Koczka missed his side's 0-1 victory over Sydney Croatia last Sunday, and Saints' coach, Frank Arok, has always been reluctant to change a winning combination.

An injury to Koczka's ankle suffered two weeks ago has kept the giant St George striker out of action.

St George over the last 11 weeks, have shown a dramatic degree of consistency, suffering only

two losses.

Brunswick Juventus boasts the League's best defensive record, having conceded only 17 goals in 21 rounds.

Arok said last night: "This match will be a definite decider as to who kicks on for the Top Five Series."

"We will be seeking revenge for our 1-0 loss in round 1 when we went down by a penalty awarded against us."

"St George has not forgotten that loss as it was not a penalty," Arok reflected.

Arok is fully aware that Brunswick have not lost any of their matches over the last four weeks and they will be a tough hurdle to clear.

St George have no injury or suspension problems for Sunday's game.

Saints' last four matches, (of which three are at home), will be against Brunswick, Footscray, Adelaide City (away) and finally against Heidelberg.

ADELAIDE HELLAS WANT LOU HRISTODOULOU

BY TOM MCKAIN

ADELAIDE Hellas are pushing for their play-off against the Queensland champions to be played before star midfielder Lou Hristodoulou leaves with the Youth Socceroos for the World Cup.

"He's so vital to our chances we are doing everything to have him in the line up for at least one of the games," said team manager Jim Carapetis.

League manager Peter Russell said the NSL wanted the play-offs settled as soon as possible, but had been looking at a September 30 date.

However, Hristodoulou leaves for South America with the Youth squad on September 28.

Mr Russell also revealed that it now appeared certain Victoria's champions would not play in the qualifiers.

"We have not been informed officially," he said.

"But unofficially we have been told there will be no Victorian club applying."

This is another reason Adelaide Hellas want the qualifiers completed, as the VSF league season has three more weeks to run.

Hellas is now playing in the West End Premier Cup for the top eight teams in the SA State League, and this also presents problems as the semi-finals and final are on Wednesday nights, possible dates for the West End qualifiers.

Queensland also has a Top Four play-off series.

While Hellas has had a successful season it has admitted it will need at least four players apart from Scottish professional Alby Kidd, who arrived in time for the last two league matches.

The sooner they knew if they are in the NSL the sooner it can recruit and resign some of their current squad.

And it looks as if they will lose veteran Graham Honeyman, despite his outstanding season.

Adelaide City is poised to approach SA players about next year and with their position secure, they have the drop on Hellas who can't sign anyone until assured of an NSL berth.



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CONUNDRUM FOR AUSSIE SUPREMO

EDITOR KEITH GILMOUR OVERVIEWS
THE RUN TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES

FRANK AROK, in charge of the Winfield Soccer-oos, did not achieve his objective when it came to contesting the Trans Tasman Trophy with New Zealand.

He aimed for a two or three goal advantage in Melbourne to carry over to Wellington.

The aggregate ended up at 2-1 against.

There is no doubt that Australia's more effervescent style became bogged down in the adverse weather conditions that applied in both cities.

Australian players needed a grounding in slushy conditions, the same as they required experience in the heat of South Korea.

The present objective is to cut a swathe into the 1988 Olympic Games finals, and it isn't going to be easy.

The series begins in Taiwan on November 15, and Australian must make the expected impressive start in the two Chinese Taipei and two Papua New Guinea matches.

It can be assumed that the March play-offs will include New Zealand, Israel and Australia plus one other Pacific qualifier, with Chinese Taipei the more likely.



EDDIE KRNCVIC



JIM PATIKAS

Arok has to make every post a winner. There is unquestionable glory in reaching the Olympic Games finals.

More importantly there is gold at the end of the World Cup rainbow — but it is becoming increasingly difficult to lay hold of it.

The Olympic campaign must be mounted without the services of expatriates Jim Patikas, David Mitchell, Eddie Krncevic and Chris Kalantzis.

On the face of it all four would be needed to provide any sort of World Cup challenge.

Especially so as the Oceania winner will face a champion side in the third South American nation.

Will the breach with Krncevic be healed?

Who knows, but a player of his class is vital to Australia's case.

lia's case.

Meanwhile Arok characteristically has said that he won't be making changes of any note to his present squad.

Stability is his hallmark, a point which undeniably stands in contrast to the Rudi Gutendorf era.

At the same time Arok allows that he has a problem in the scoring department.

Perhaps Arok is suffering from the effect on the players of the number of games they are playing.

It's a 9/10 months season of constant pressure, and that is a high demand on semi-professionals.

LESSONS FROM THE KIWIS

WHEN Frank Arok return from Wellington on Friday night after the 2-1 aggregate loss to New Zealand in the Winfield Trans Tasman Trophy series, he allowed he had a few sobering thoughts.

He said: "No country can expect victory automatically. I don't know any rules that say we are guaranteed an Olympic Games place in Seoul."

"The big lesson is that other nations are learning fast. We can't expect any

favours.

"The loss will make people aware that we must have decent preparation if we are to go places in the Olympic Games."

Regarding the Trans Tasman series, Arok said that it would be impossible to play two games in a row under such adverse conditions.

"The freezing and rainy weather could only be duplicated in places like Scotland and Ireland."

"Skill and speed got bogged down and New Zealand's will to win came to the fore," he said.

But what really amazed Arok was the media cover that the New Zealand team received. He felt it

outdistanced what the Socceroos received in Australia for their best World Cup efforts by the proverbial mile.

Dealing with his players, he felt that the stresses of the club season had a big bearing on their outlook.

And now the national squad will have to work in regional groups to conserve finances.

They will come together in early November prior to heading off to Taiwan for the first Olympic Games qualifier on November 15.

The record since late 1986 is six wins, seven draws and two losses, one of the latter being in extra time.



Andrew Zinni and Frank Farina celebrate Australia's goal at Olympic Park

KIWIS MASTER QUAGMIRE AT AUSTRALIA'S EXPENSE

THE talent inherent in the Winfield Soccer-oos team remained dormant in the slush of the Hutt Recreation Ground as New Zealand's All Whites fought their way to a 1-0 win in Wellington last Wednesday.

The New Zealanders won the Winfield Trans Tasman Cup on the strength of an 18th minute goal in which Gary McDowell and Jeff Olver were both involved.

Robust striker Fred De Jong headed well from a right wing cross. Olver couldn't grip the ball and it went.

After the 1-1 draw in Melbourne, that left New Zealand 2-1 winners on aggregate.

As forecast in AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY last week, a heavy ground and wet conditions did play a part in the New Zealand team's outlook.

land team's outlook.

The conditions showed that Australians must become accustomed to rain-soaked fields, even allowing that South Korean conditions provided the main priority.

In this case the Wellington quagmire proved the undoing of what should have been a commanding Australian midfield.

It didn't take long for the All Whites to get down to the business end of matters.

As early as the first minute De Jong was on his way, only to be decked just outside the Australian penalty area.

Jeff Olver brought off a class save from the resultant free kick, taken by central defender Malcolm Dunford, who is the New Zealand captain at the age of 24.

A little later it was Dun-

ford again, driving in a long-range shot at the Australian goal.

Australia could not get back into the match and Australian coach Frank Arok was ready to admit that the New Zealand side

Whilst a loss is always cold comfort, Arok did have a point.

He could look back to an unbeaten run over the 14 previous games, provided that an extra time result was excluded.

On that basis he said he is not looking to squad changes, although it would surprise if he was not to quietly run through his player files for a couple of alternatives.

New Zealand coach Kevin Fallon rightly gave full marks to his players for their spirit and determination.

And, when a nation of three million people can down 16 million-Australia in soccer, rugby league and rugby union in the one year they are at very least entitled to grudging admiration.

AUSTRALIA: Olver, Savor, Davidson, Dunn, Yankos, Odzakovic (Crno), Wade, McDowell, Farina, Arnold, Zinni (Brown).



MALCOLM DUNFORD

had proved better than was thought.

At the same time he allowed: "The one goal loss isn't the end of the world for us."

NSL FIXTURES

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20
RD 20 KICK-OFF 2.30PM

FOOTSCRAY v SYDNEY OLYMPIC

ST GEORGE v BRUNSWICK

MELBOURNE CROATIA v SUNSHINE GC

MARCONI v PRESTON MAKEDONIA

APIA LEICHHARDT v STH MELBOURNE

ADELAIDE CITY v SYDNEY CROATIA

HEIDELBERG UTD, bye

Schintler Res

St George Stadium

Olympic Park

Marconi Stadium

Lambert Park

Oly Sports Field

MARCONI vs PRESTON



DAVID LOWE (Marconi)

SUNDAY AT 2.30PM

MARCONI STADIUM

YOUTH LEAGUE 12.15PM

IAN GRAY (Marconi)



Can Preston keep up their giant-killing of Sydneys Italian-backed clubs or will Marconi exact sweet revenge. *Other attractions — Marconi Mystiques BBQ, Italian Gelato and Rest of Media versus SBS TV at 10.30pm **BE THERE!**

CSR GYPROCK

PERTH VOTES ON NSL PROPOSAL

THE Perth proposal to amalgamate four Italian-backed clubs to form one West Australian Super League club goes to the vote on Friday.

And the extension of the scheme is that the Super League side so formed would seek a joint venture with private investors to form the club to enter the West End National League.

The Perth NSL club would then be managed by the private company formed to provide for the 50/50 interests.

It is proposed that the team to play in the eight-team Super League would be named Italia United and the NSL team Perth United.

The four clubs involved Balcatta Etna, Bayswater Inter, East Fremantle Tricolore and Perth Azzuri calculate that they have a pool of some 3,750 spectators.

Between the clubs 56 teams, mainly juniors, are fielded in competitions.

All the clubs say they are faced with decreasing gates and increasing costs.

The idea is to play the

proposed senior clubs on Dorrien Gardens Ground, which is held under long term lease by Perth Azzuri.

The ground itself is well situated in Perth, although some games would be played at Wauhop Park so that patrons from both north and south of the river are provided for.

Dorrien Gardens itself would need improvements to give undercover seating for 2,500 people and there would be an updated clubhouse and canteen.

Sponsors of the club point to the improvement in Australian rules, basketball, cricket, hockey, baseball and even fun parks as competitors which will further push soccer into the backwater unless something is done.

Behind the scheme is millionaire Nick Tanna.

Approach

Whether the something is just the eight-team WA Super League or that plus NSL remains to be seen.

The approach is fundamentally Italian. "It is this patriotism that we are now calling upon," is the cry.

The move does not

seem to cover Perth as a whole, which leaves room for the NSL to query whether a more all-round approach would come in the course of time.

The application has the Soccer Federation of WA approval.

And then there is the position set up by the WA Government for a \$5 million contribution towards a worthwhile soccer ground in Perth.

It seems that Italia United/Perth United would independently seek state assistance for a better ground in 1989.

No club however is assured of NSL stability, so a deal of thinking could be required.

What if Perth were admitted in 1988 and went out on promotion/relegation at the end of the year?

Fund Raising

Initially the four clubs would be required to raise \$50,000 each, or \$200,000, with private investors to come up with \$500,000.

Some \$250,000 would go into Dorrien Gardens and \$150,000 into player and establishment costs.

A substantial loss is budgeted for in 1988, with

a major improvement to give an estimated surplus the following year.

The Perth United budget calls for \$50,000 subsidies each year for clubs traveling to Perth and back from points in the east.

This however must lead to NSW, Victorian and South Australian clubs in the West End League doing a deal of homework.

Signals going out indicate that quite a number of the present 13 teams are dragging their feet in meeting their financial commitments to the NSL.

Extra wages would be called upon by travelling clubs for the trip to Perth.

And of course some players simply cannot get extra time away from their employment.

Alternatives

And, perhaps unfortunately for the Perth application, there could be other viable clubs who are interested in any gaps that might occur.

As at today no provision exists for an entrant from outside the present rules, although it is possible that the Australian Soccer Federation could move in

their favour as well as the NSL.

Wollongong City is already there under the rules and facing the need to strengthen its squad and drum up extra cash.

If a Brisbane club or Adelaide Hellas fail to qualify, do they have some sort of moral right to come into any vacancy?

And Canberra, with its modern approach to promotion, intends to press an application regardless of finishing second to Wollongong on the NSW State Bank League table.

Melita Eagles and Blacktown City in NSW both have the standing and quality to move up.

Already the leading Victorian State League club Maribynong Polonia has forgone the chance to join the NSL.

The question now is how far the debate will broaden, who will enter it and to what degree will the NSL regard club accounts as being met by some sort of a reasonable 'final payment' date.

And then it becomes a matter for the voting NSL clubs, and after that maybe big brother, the Australian Soccer Federation.

KEITH GILMOUR

PRITCHARD PLUMPS FOR CANBERRA

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THE time has come for the ACT's three major sporting teams to work together "to provide Canberra with a level of sport and entertainment which has never been seen here before," sporting entrepreneur Bob Pritchard said.

"Canberra has three teams which are competitive across the nation — the Raiders in rugby league, the Cannons in basketball, and the Canberra Griffins soccer team," he said.

"There is absolutely no reason why those three teams cannot work together."

"It's very expensive to promote three teams independently and while I know people will be fearful of their crowds being poached, this has not been the experience in the United States."

Pritchard, who was in Canberra to announce a link between his company, Bob Pritchard International Marketing, and the Griffins, said he would be opening negotiations with the Cannons and the Raiders.

It was also expected that the Griffins would move towards being a publicly-owned company and to this end that club was launching a Soccer Support Certificate which anyone could purchase. "Then, when we float the company, people can redeem their certificates for shares."

In the short term soccer supporters could expect far more than just a match for their admittance money to Bruce stadium next season. "It will be a full entertainment day," he said.

"Sport today is about the family. And, win or loose, if they all come away at 5.30pm saying that they enjoyed themselves, then they will be back."

"We will market the club with flair. There will be jingles and a slogan aimed at getting the community behind us."

"The days of having a national competition with half your teams in Melbourne and half in Sydney will soon be over. The best areas are those small enough to build parochial support behind one team. Canberra is just the right size and soccer is already very popular here."

Pritchard said it was not crucial that Canberra played in the NSL next season "although we will approach the league for readmittance even if we did not win promotion."

"If we are unsuccessful we will adjust our targets for another year in the State League — but our eventual target must be a place in the national competition."

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MARCONI MISS CALDERAN FOR PRESTON GAME

STEVE CALDERAN, Marconi's giant centre-back, will miss Sunday's important League clash at Marconi Stadium with Preston.

Preston, the team that cracked Apia's 20-match unbeaten run last Sunday in Melbourne, will be riding

high with confidence.

Calderan was sent off last Sunday against Sunshine George Cross in the last minute of the match, and will automatically serve a one match suspension.

Roberto Vieri, Marconi's chief, has a number of options at his disposal to plug up the gap left by Calderan.

A coy Vieri said last night: "I will not decide at this stage who will take Steve's spot at central defence with captain Tony Henderson."



DAVID LOWE will provide spark to Marconi's attack on Sunday.

"I can switch Gerardo Gomez across from left-back to join Tony, or play Robbie Wheatley as a libero again."

"I will wait and see what happens at training this week and make my final decision on Friday night."

"Make no mistake, this Preston match will be a

very hard game as both teams are on equal points. We must win to get a clean two points break on them in the League."

"Only our superior goal-difference splits us at this stage," the former Italian star midfielder told ASW.

Marconi, despite their unexpected away 2-2 draw against Sunshine George Cross last Sunday, are sitting precariously in second spot on the NSL ladder with 23 points.

Preston and Melbourne Croatia are also on 23, but Preston are in third spot, due to an inferior goal-difference to Marconi.

Adding enormous pressure to Marconi is the fact that just one point away, South Melbourne, Sydney Olympic and St George are all locked on 22 points.

A slip by Marconi on Sunday could prove fatal and see them crashing out of the Top Five Series in five weeks time.

Marconi this season has promised so much yet delivered little.

But I feel strongly that in the Top Five Series Marconi will be the cat amongst the pigeons.

Players of the calibre with international experience of Tony Henderson, Frank Farina, Robbie Wheatley, Ian Gray, Gerardo Gomez, David Lowe, Steve Maxwell and Tommy McCulloch carry too much clout and pride to bow out of the 1987 season without salvaging something from this year's National Soccer League.

Preston has scored 26 goals and conceded 19, whilst Marconi have knocked in 34 goals, giving away 24.

JOHN ECONOMOS

AISSPECIAL FOR COACHES

THE Australian Institute of Sport will be having a fund raising weekend on October 23/24, to help cover the cost of two scholarships for next year which have been cut from the program.

The intention is to have a weekend for coaches to come and stay at the Institute and participate in sessions on and off the field with the Institute coaches.

The weekend is open to any coach who is interested in finding out what is done to improve the players at the Institute, as well as the views of the AIS coaches on technique development, team tactics and physical preparation.



RON SMITH

Sports psychologist John Crampton, who has worked extensively with the soccer program, will be giving two presentations in addition to the sessions which will be taken by Ron Smith, Gary Cole and Tony Franken.

The cost will cover full board (shared accommodation) from Friday night to Sunday night for coaches from Sydney and from Friday night to Monday morning for coaches from Melbourne etc.

The full cost is \$150.00 and any interested persons should contact Ron Smith to Gary Cole at the AIS on 062-521 315 or 521 312 or send their name and address to AIS SOCCER, P.O. BOX 176, BELCONNEN, ACT 2616. Cheques should be made payable to the AIS Soccer.

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Contention and stability combined

JOHN YZENDOORN'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

AN IN DEPTH FEATURE BY
MELBOURNE'S GREG BLAKE

PLENTY can and has been said about the career of 32-year-old Brunswick Juventus veteran John Yzendoorn. Accusations, many of them untrue, have been levelled at him, he's been branded a rebel and troublemaker and, for a time, the Sydney press delighted in taking shots at him.

But one thing that cannot be questioned about Yzendoorn's NSL career is that the slightly built, sandy-haired defender has been the model of consistency in over a decade of soccer in Australia.

At 32 Yzendoorn can't go on forever and unfortunately few have paid tribute to him in recent times. His polished displays in the heart of the Juve defence have gone unrecognised week by week.

But at the time of writing Yzendoorn has just passed the milestone 200 NSL game mark to make this as good a time as any to give him the credit he deserves.

Like it or not Yzendoorn is one of the all time great NSL champions, and there are a few who would not like to concede that at all.

The infamous national team 'tapping' incident which put paid to Yzendoorn's Socceroo career became 'black mark number one' against his name, and there are many who refuse to forgive or forget that little indiscretion.

Yzendoorn, wisely, still refused to be drawn on that matter even these days.

And of course Yzendoorn has been found guilty by association following his many years under the coaching guidance of Len McKendry.

McKendry, the coaching rebel, has achieved a level of success which is only equalled by his ability to make as many enemies as friends in the game.

The contrasting publicity which has made McKendry an enigmatic public figure has been passed on to Yzendoorn, who has served him so well at Heidelberg, South Melbourne and now at Brunswick.

And yet Yzendoorn, at least these days, is one of the least public figures around as he goes about his playing and his private life quietly and with a minimum of fuss.

Query

He seemed even a little puzzled when ASW approached him about his 200th game. "It's been a long while since I've had this much publicity," mused the likeable Juve defender.

And that is how it's been for the unassuming but ever-so efficient Yzendoorn for some time now.

Season 1984 was the last time he remembers being in the spotlight so much — in the year that he led by example to help South Melbourne Hellas to its most glorious national triumph.

"In 1984 when we won everything at Hellas is certainly one of my greatest

memories," Yzendoorn told me.

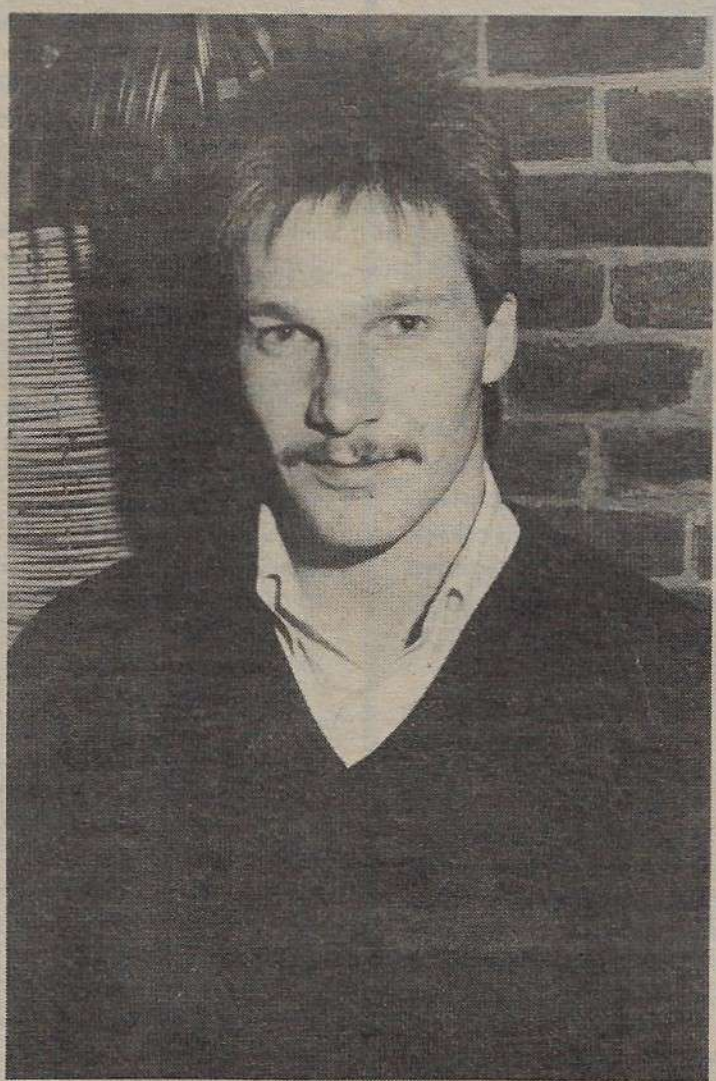
"Playing is all about winning things really.

"So you enjoy moments like that or when Juventus won the league in 1986, and in 1980 when I was with Heidelberg and we beat Sydney City 4-0 in the top five Grand Final played in Canberra."

Not everyone realises that not all of Yzendoorn's triumphs have come under Len McKendry.

Whilst admitting he and McKendry have been great mates since they met in 1978, Yzendoorn is quick to point out that he has actually been signed by his current coach only once.

Yzendoorn joined his



He was virtually thrown on the international scrapheap

first NSL club Heidelberg (then Fitzroy United) in the 1978/79 close-season. At that stage the club was coached by John Margaritis.

He transferred to South Melbourne Hellas in March 1983, when they were under the guidance of former national team boss Rale Rasic.

Both times McKendry joined the respective clubs after Yzendoorn, and only his 1986 transfer to current club Brunswick Juventus was actually to a McKendry coached team.

Ability

Regardless, Yzendoorn ranks McKendry a



JOHN YZENDOORN (left) does the job on South's Charlie Egan.

about the treatment he has received from the media since the infamous Socceroo 'taping' incident.

But it is clear that the former Socceroo is hurt that he was virtually thrown on the international scrapheap at 26.

"Look, I really don't want to talk about it too much except to say that I've always been disappointed that the whole business was blown up too much out of proportion," Yzendoorn says.

"Especially by a couple of people in the Sydney media who, to this day, have never contacted me for my side of the story.

"In the end I think I was just used as a bit of a scapegoat for the ASF.

"I say that because everybody knew about it (the taping) the day after it happened, but nothing was said until we were beaten by New Zealand."

Speaking Out

Yzendoorn concedes that his honest, up-front attitude and a penchant for speaking his mind might have hindered his career and earned himself something of a reputation as a rebel in his own right.

"But I'm afraid that I've the type of personality that if I don't agree with something I'll say something," he says.

"But being honest doesn't always pay off.

"Some people might see me as a rebel and although the taping business might be seen by some as having been sneaky, I'm a pretty open above-board sort of bloke.

"Because I'm a friend of Len's might also have gone against me because he has never really got on well with authority.

"But I'm a great admirer of Len.

individual players for praise.

He's seen champions come and go from the NSL over the past decade and he's played with or against just about all of them.

"I really do hate to pick out single players because they all add certain aspects to the game and when I look back I've played against or with so many fine players," he told me.

"And after all it is a team oriented game."

"I prefer to remember the great times and funny things that have happened over the years."

Memories

Yzendoorn recalls one incident when the Socceroos, under Rudi Gutendorf, were on their 1980 world tour.

"We were in Zabreb waiting to go to the airport and just as we thought all the touring party were aboard we realised that Les Scheinflug and Jamie Paton were missing.

"Gutendorf told the coach driver to leave despite them not being aboard and we took off to the airport.

"As we were leaving I saw Jamie Paton come running from the hotel and out to the road behind the bus and I don't think I've ever seen anything funnier than Jamie running down the road in the snow with his suitcases crashing along beside him."

The humour of the situation waned when Paton and Scheinflug arrived at the airport after following the bus in a taxi.

Gutendorf wanted to send Paton home and it was only after the players



RUDI GUTENDORF

had banded together to convince him otherwise that the former national coach reneged.

But Paton's Socceroo career was as good as over and it was Yzendoorn who suffered the same fate not long afterward.

Half a decade on and in retrospect that seems such a shame.

Yzendoorn's given plenty in the ensuing years at club level and there's nothing surer than the NSL's newest 200 gamer would have done the same in the green and gold.

But sport is full of 'might have beens,' and to John Yzendoorn all we want to say is 'well done'.



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FIRST PAST THE POST

I HAVE to say very strongly that I disagree with last week's viewpoint of our Melbourne correspondent, Greg Blake on the validity of the grand finals system.

Greg applauded the colour of the series of games leading up to the grand finals, but I don't see it that way at all.

A Rale Rasic viewpoint



Olympic coach Eddie Thomson.

I realise that countries with big distances like Brazil and Argentina have play-offs, but I think Australia's top five is laughable.

People have to be involved to realise what it is like to win a championship.

Nothing beats the competitive spirit of players working together over a season.

At APLA we began last November, so you can see how much effort goes into doing the job properly over such a long period of time.

If anyone thinks I am on a high because of APLA's record this year then please remember this.

I had the pleasure of three straight grand final wins with St George (1971) and Marconi (1972 and 1973).

The position is that one year we have the championship not linked to the grand finals, and next time around they are joined together.

Which direction are we going? We certainly can't progress without stability.

Frankly I can't see clubs like Juventus and Napoli, Liverpool, Everton, Red Star, Dinamo, Partisan or Bayern Munich being interested in anything but a straight out championship.

I feel the grand-final system creates a yo-yo sort of existence.

Manly rugby league is surely the true champions of their code and not the minor premiers. The same applies in Australian Rules to Carlton.

All Eastern Suburbs' Artie Beetson had to do was to play seven reserves in a match to get who he wanted to position his club for the semi-finals.

Ask Eddie Thomson about his Sydney City days and what it meant to win a championship compared with a grand final.

Changing decisions about competitions all the time is an insult to the game.

Final five games I think are minor and are purely financial in nature. If it was left to me I would have a championship and a cup and nothing else.

It was too much to start training last November and then be expected to carry on to November 8 this year to play in a grand final.

Your whole season's record ends up depending on the results of one or two final games.

SOCCER TO GET BARE RULES?

BRISBANE Bears Australian Rules general manager Shane O'Sullivan will be the guest speaker at this year's Queensland Soccer Press Association presentation dinner to be held at Perry Park on Friday, October 9.

With Queensland hoping to re-enter the National League Soccer competition next season, O'Sullivan's comments on how the Bears fared in the expanded nationwide VFL this season are certain to

create much interest.

Already Brisbane Lions' officials have hinted that if they return to the NSL it would be in a high profile manner as per the Bears or the Brisbane Bullets basketball operation.

The Soccer Press dinner is expected to again be one of the highlights of the season with up to 200 guests anticipated.

A feature of this year's presentation will be the first Queensland players' Player of the Year award. All XXXX League players have been polled, giving 3,2,1 votes and the final outcome is certain to be eagerly awaited.

As in recent years QSPA will also present Referee, Rookie and Coach of the Year awards while O'Sullivan will present the premier award — the Queensland Player of the Year.

Former Lions' defender Steve Jackson, who transferred to Preston this season, was last year's award winner.



ALBERT KIDD HEARTS BREAKER

BY PAUL MOON

ALTHOUGH Albert Kidd, Adelaide Hellas' new acquisition from Scotland, played with distinction for five senior clubs in his native country, it is the supporters of two clubs he never appeared for — Heart of Midlothian and Glasgow Celtic — who will most easily remember him. For it was Kidd who determined that Celtic and not Hearts won the 1985-86 Scottish League Championship.

Hearts went into the final match of that season with a two point lead over Celtic, and requiring just a draw against Dundee to win their first major honour for 23 years.

All was going well for them, they were comfortably holding Dundee to a scoreless draw late into the game, when Kidd came on as a substitute and snatched two goals to end the Edinburgh side's unbeaten run which had extended to 31 games. Meanwhile Celtic were beating St Mirren 5-0 and stealing the Championship on goal difference.

His standing in Hearts supporters' popularity polls plunged further the following year when appearing to feign an injury that resulted in a "Jam Tarts" player being sent off.

Kidd, however, achieved far more in his Scottish League career than gaining 'public enemy number one' status on the terraces of Tynecastle Park.

Joining Brechin City from junior club Carnoustie Panmure in 1976, he subsequently played for Arbroath, Motherwell, Dundee and Falkirk. His League appearances totalled 298, during which he scored 52 goals.

A skilful player who was never short of confidence, he proved himself equally capable as a midfielder, winger or striker.

Twice Kidd was the subject of club record transfers. The \$100,000 Motherwell paid to acquire him in 1980 remains the highest amount Arbroath have received for a player, and, a year later home town club Dundee paid the largest fee in their history, \$160,000, for his services.

Turning 30 on October 16, Kidd still has time to make his presence felt in the West End National Soccer League, should the Adelaide club gain promotion.

Already he has enjoyed far greater success in South Australia than during his one previous experience of soccer beyond Scotland's shores.

Last year he joined a club in America's Major Indoor Soccer League but returned home after just two weeks!

SYDNEY CROATIA — FOOTSCRAY DISTURBANCES

Dear Sir,

After reading Keith Gilmour's article it forces me to ask a few questions, one comes to mind immediately: Was I really in a riot without being aware of it?

Did you really see a carryover of "warfare" that began in the first round fracas? Who were the fighting factions? Were the Croatian fans fighting amongst themselves or did you get a little carried away at your typewriter? One hot headed man, and only one, jumped over the fence after some incredibly stupid decisions by the referee — is that what you call a riot?

Objects were thrown at Zoran Nikitovic. I don't doubt that but I doubt if there was any intended malice by the group of young teenagers behind his goal. They were trying to be nuisances and I think the goalkeeper thought so too.

"At the time" he was constantly facing them and smiling. There certainly was no hint to the amazing story he would tell afterwards.

You claim there were nine wagons of squad cars, plain-clothes men in the crowd and even the Tactical Response Unit. Well I hope they contained this man from any further riotous behaviour. They certainly didn't arrest anyone especially behind the goal end, perhaps they didn't deem it to be riotous behaviour.

Your claim that the game should have been abandoned is absolutely absurd and if what you saw warranted an abandonment then I think no game in Europe would ever take place.

Crowd violence is most certainly a worry to any genuine soccer fan and I for one totally disapprove of it but I disapprove of journalists who make mountains out of molehills. This article used very little fact content and a great deal of imagination to sensationalise the events of the afternoon.

These journalists don't do Soccer any favours. I am sure that the other codes don't report every little scuffle that may occur in their game.

M Miodic
Parramatta 2150

NOTHING is more certain than the fact that various people would have differing views on what constitutes riotous behaviour.

However, Mr Miodic, the West End NSL must have viewed the situation extremely seriously. They fined Sydney Croatia \$2,000 and the club is now required to provide security at such hotspots as behind the goals and at the players' entry.

They will consider putting the games on behind closed doors and will not allow Croatia-Footscray games to be played at Edensor Park.

As to the accuracy of our report — which incidentally is corroborated by the report in the Sydney Daily Telegraph news section of Monday August 31 and was written by another keen Soccer man — we reply to the points raised as follows:

... The warfare was not between two sets of supporters. It was clearly directed from a section of Croatia followers against the Footscray team.

... If the Croatia management was not expecting a carryover from Melbourne, why did they mount security precautions of a magnitude rarely seen at an Australian Soccer match?

... If we assume that Zoran Nikitovic did enjoy having missiles hurled at him, I am sure that the rest of the players, the referee and the linesmen did not. Nor did the physiotherapist who produced the rock that just missed him, or the referees' inspector who was hit on the forehead by a bottle.

... The man who was chased off by security guards was backed by a group who caused trouble, but I of course agree did not jump the barricade.

... I counted nine wagons and squad cars. Authority for plain-clothes men in the crowd is a prominent Croatia official, and for Tactical Response personnel the journalists who saw them.

... My subjective view of why the police left the people behind the goal to club attendants is that they chose to exercise discretion so as not to incite possible further trouble.

... As to the possible abandonment of the game, I am aware that this was considered by the referee, on the grounds of the need to protect the safety of players, officials and ancillary staff.

It is over 49 years since as a boy I stood on my pushbike to watch my first senior game between Granville and St George over the fence at the old Clyde Oval on Parramatta Road.

I allow I have been in the midst of worse trouble, when life and limb was at great risk. I have seen incidents that have had the effect of reducing public interest and attendance levels, and wish to see them removed from the game. It seems that the NSL is to be commended for their firmness, much as I sympathise with the predicament of the Sydney Croatia management. - Editor.

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possibility of straight wins for his team and continuous losses for APIA.

He could afford to be realistic when the Matthew Tomas lack of registration occurred, but his club is now looking at the possibility of reaching second place.

Indeed it will take a deal of bad luck to see them deprived of the honour.

What a magnificent second round turnabout.

And they have had to operate without the assistance of their brilliant defender and captain Con Opasinis, who tore a hamstring and has missed a whole string of games.

But whilst it is possible to estimate who could reach the semi-final play-offs and even the grand-finals, a sudden surge by clubs such as Sydney Croatia, Melbourne Croatia and Brunswick Juventus could overturn even the most logical of predictions.

Which are the teams that can keep their cool and retain top players in the four games ahead, as well as in the grand-final series.

This year's series will be split between Melbourne and Sydney with the elimination and preliminary semi-finals set down for Wednesday October 21.

It is to be hoped that the separate series will see the leading clubs receive



National champions APIA in action. Charlie Yankos and Peter Katholos go up for a cross against Sunshine George Cross.

just reward in gate receipts for the season's sterling efforts.

The grand finals will be played over two legs — on Sunday November 1 and 8.

But there is also the Beach Fashions Cup final to go, with big clubs South Melbourne Hellas and Sydney Croatia to the fore.

The Melbourne side has hit its straps due to limited

team changes made by Brian Garvey which have borne fruit.

But can Sydney Croatia rescue its flagging fortunes with a similar act.

Vedran Rozic has reached the stage at which he will try.

He hopes that it won't be a case of grasping at straws — rather will it lead to the revival that will entice the crowds back.

APIA TO PICK UP PIECES

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

APIA-Leichhardt, having won the National League by dint of splendid dedication and now Melbourne Croatia's default in fielding an unregistered player, will be out to avenge their first loss of the season which they suffered last Sunday when they meet the powerful South Melbourne at Lambert Park.

Well and truly beaten by by Preston, they will be out to show their home crowd at Lambert Park just what they are really made of.

Peter Tredinnick, Apia's star left midfielder, said last night: "Despite our grief that our unbeaten run this season was shattered by Preston, it has lifted an enormous pressure off our shoulders.

"The whole team was extremely disappointed, despite the fact that Preston deserved to win on the day."

Tredinnick, easily one of the club's most consistent performers this season,

philosophically advised: "We must pick up the pieces now to show our mettle."



Peter Tredinnick ... Apia's star midfielder.

"South Melbourne, which is one of the League's better sides, will be a hard opponent and we must now quickly lift our game.

"Souths have a tricky pair in twin strikers Charlie Egan and Stuart Stevenson, plus good solid midfielders in Paul Wade and Richard

Miranda.

"Back for us will be Charlie Yankos and Mark Brown who missed last Sunday's match."

But Apia will again be without their skilful midfielder Alex Bundalo and utility man back Burim Zajmi, both out still injured.

Adding to Apia's frustrations is the fact that mid-field goalscorer Peter

Katholos will miss the South Melbourne clash through suspension.

The "Kat" was booked last Sunday and will now serve an automatic one match suspension.

Apia has only three matches, (not four), to go.

These are against South Melbourne, Sydney Croatia and Brunswick Juventus.



WEEK 112
19th SEPTEMBER, 1987

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	WIMBLEDON	1	2
	CHARLTON	LUTON TOWN	2	2
	CHELSEA	NORWICH C.	3	1
	COVENTRY	NOTTM. F.	4	X
	DERBY C.	SHEFF. WED.	5	1
	EVERTON	MAN. UTD.	6	X
	OXFORD U.	Q.P.R.	7	2
	WATFORD	PORTSMOUTH	8	1
	WEST HAM	TOTTENHAM	9	X
	BIRMINGHAM	SHREWSBURY	10	1
DIVISION 2	BRADFORD C.	BLACKBURN	11	1
	HUDDERSFIELD	ASTON VILLA	12	2
	HULL C.	OLDHAM A.	13	X
	IPSWICH T.	SWINDON	14	1
	LEICESTER	PLYMOUTH A.	15	1
	MAN. CITY	STOKE C.	16	X
	MIDDLESBRO'	LEEDS U.	17	2
	READING	CRYSTAL P.	18	2
	SHEFF. UTD.	MILLWALL	19	2
	W.B.A.	BOURNEMTH	20	1
DIVISION 3	BRENTFORD	BLACKPOOL	21	1
	BRIGHTON	SUNDERLAND	22	X
	BRISTOL R.	NORTH'PTON	23	1
	BURY	ALDERSHOT	24	1
	CHESTER	GRIMSBY T.	25	X
	GILLINGHAM	YORK	26	1
	MANSFIELD	SOUTHEND	27	X
	NOTTS. C.	BRISTOL C.	28	2
	PORT VALE	FULHAM	29	2
	PRESTON	ROTHERHAM	30	2
DIVISION 4	WALSALL	WIGAN A.	31	2
	BURNLEY	CAMB'GE U.	32	X
	CARDIFF	CARLISLE	33	2
	EXETER	ROCHDALE	34	1
	HARTLEPOOL	COLCHESTER	35	2
	HEREFORD	DARLINGTON	36	1
	PETERBORO'	WREXHAM	37	1
	SCARBORO'	SWANSEA	38	X
	ST. MARY'S	TRURO	39	1
	WIMBORNE	WIMBORNE	40	1

RESERVE MATCHES

DIV 4	STOCKPORT	WOLVES	39	
	TORQUAY	BOLTON W.	40	
	BOGNOR R.	YEOVIL	41	
	FARNBORO'	LEYTONSTONE	42	
	HARROW	BASINGSTOKE	43	
	HENDON	DULWICH	44	
	CELTIC	ABERDEEN	45	
	DUNDEE	HEARTS	46	
	DUNFERMLINE	MORTON	47	
	HIBERNIAN	FALKIRK	48	
SCOTTISH PREMIER	MOTHERWELL	RANGERS	49	
	ST. MIRREN	DUNDEE UTD.	50	
	AIRDRIE	KILMARNOCK	51	
	CLYDE	MEADOWBANK	52	
	CLYDEBANK	RAITH	53	
	EAST FIFE	DUMBARTON	54	
	FORFAR	HAMILTON	55	
	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	56	
	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	57	
	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	58	

THIS WEEK'S WINNING MATCH NUMBERS

3,	12,	18,	24,
33,	35.	SUPP.	31

ALL THE WORLD RESULTS

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Liverpool	2	Oxford	0	Luton	2
Everton	1	Manchester United	2		
Newcastle	2	Norwich	1	Derby	2
Nottingham Forest	0	Arsenal	1		
Portsmouth	1	Charlton	1	Queens Park Rangers	3
Sheff. Wed.	3	Chelsea	1	Sheff. Utd	1
Tottenham	2	Southampton	1		
Wimbledon	1	West Ham	1		

DIVISION TWO

Aston Villa	0	Barnsley	0	Blackburn	2
Huddersfield	2	Bournemouth	3	Reading	0
Crystal Palace	2	Leicester	1	Leeds	0
Hull	2	Millwall	2	Ipswich	1
Oldham	3	Sheff. Utd	1	Sheff. Utd	1
Sheff. Utd	1	Bromwich	3	Shrewsbury	1
Manchester City	0	Stoke	1	Bradford	2
Swindon	0	Birmingham	2		

DIVISION THREE

Aldershot	3	Brighton	4	Blackpool	0
Chester	3	Risto City	3	Grimsby	0
Rovers	3	Chesterfield	3	Port Vale	3
Fulham	6	Chesham	1	2	7
Chesham	1	2	7	10	13
Chesterfield	3	1	2	4	13
10	13	8	3	6	7
Bristol Rovers	6	2	2	13	7
Grimsby	6	2	2	13	7
Blackpool	6	2	2	13	7
Brentford	6	2	2	13	7
Walsall	6	2	2	13	7
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THE GAME AS BIG AS AUSTRALIA

APIA LOSE BUT THEY ALSO WIN

By VLADO VLAHOVIC

PRESTON continued their climb to the top with a dazzling 4-0 win over previously unbeaten champions Apia Leichhardt at Connor Reserve.

Ernie Meric's unbeaten record broke Apia's to help Preston become the third Victoria team featuring in the top five of the competition.

Melbourne Croatia and South Melbourne are the other Victorian sides currently holding fourth and fifth spot.

A hat-trick by import Goce Dimovski shattered

Apia's hopes of finishing undefeated. The Yugoslav import went on a 10 minute scoring spree in the second half and broke the deadlock with three successive goals.

But while Dimovski became the hero of the supporters, the man who inflicted the reputation damaging wound to Apia was defender Mike

McLennan.

In superb form, McLennan not only defended solidly but he became the attacking avenue of his team.

The opening half of the game developed into a very close contest with Preston holding the edge. In fact the home team created enough scoring opportunities in the first period to wrap up the game with a convincing score.

Obviously hampered by the absence of their Soccerroo sweeper Charlie Yankos Apia experienced difficulty in co-ordinating their defence.

In spite of their problems Apia defended solidly in the opening half and looked a champion side every time they surged forward.

Strikers Gary Ward and Hilton Phillips were causing havoc in Preston's area but failed to capitalise on their efforts.

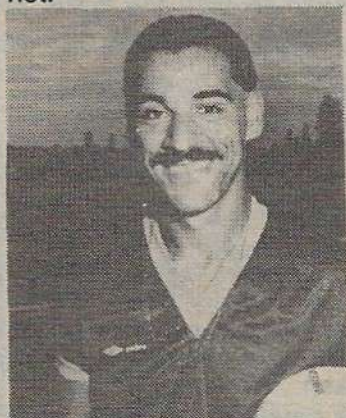
Preston set sails for their triumph in the second half. Dimovski broke the deadlock in the 64th minute when he intercepted a poor back-pass, rounded advancing Tony Pezzano and sliced the ball in the net.

With the pressure mounting Apia's defence gave signs of decline.

Their woes increased in the 73rd minute when Dimovski latched on to a precision cross by John Stewart and hammered the ball in the net for the second time.

With the game slipping through their hands Apia tried to regroup.

Their efforts were halted by Dimovski's third goal. From a dubious offside position he outplayed two defenders and fired a low drive that rested in the back of the net.



HILTON PHILLIPS

In spite of their three goal deficit Apia refused to surrender. Terry Butler should have pulled one back for the visitors in the closing stages of the game but his chip-shot went wide.

Preston defender Steve Jackson hit the target 60 seconds before the final whistle with a diving header that produced Preston's most prolific win for the season.

PRESTON: Tralendis, McLennan, Jackson, J. Stewart, Piculovski, Ilioski, Silikaw, Campbell, Dimovski, Petrov, Gojevic.
APIA: Pezzano, De Marigny, Bertogna, Bozanic (Zervas 75), Lorens, Butler, Tredinnick, Katholos, Phillips, Ward, Brown.
Ref: C Bambridge
Crowd: 3,000



Olympic's Abbas Saad (right) outjumps Melbourne Croatia's Ian Dobson. PHOTO: Modern Studios.

OLYMPIC DROP A VALUABLE POINT

By JOHN ECONOMOS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC dropped a valuable point when visiting Melbourne Croatia held the home team to a 1-1 draw at the St George Stadium.

Melbourne Croatia could be considered a trifle unlucky for not collecting both points.

Twin strikers, Paul Lewis and former Coventry City man, Ian Wallace, ripped Olympic apart in the first "innings".

Wallace was all class.

In the 20th minute he stole possession from Olympic's captain, Peter Raskopoulos near halfway and then sent a magnificent 35 metre defence-splitting ball which allowed Lewis to run on to it and crash home from 15 metres out.

Just two minutes later, Wallace again sliced through a fabulous ball but this time Lewis disappointed by slamming the chance into the side-netting.

Melbourne Croatia's back four men of George Hannah, Robbie Dunn, Davie McIntosh and Ian Dobson, handled everything that Olympic could hurl at them.

Dunn and McIntosh easily cleaned up all aerial battles.

Two minutes before "drinks", Olympic's magical South American midfielder, Vicente Estavillo, rifled in a 30 metre 'bomb' which Melbourne Croatia's international centre-back, Dunn just managed to head away from the goal-line.

But 60 seconds later, Estavillo came again and set up Olympic's equaliser.

A lovely chip from Estavillo allowed Patalis to round a defender on the left and slam home past goalkeeper, Mirko Runje seconds before halftime.

And that wrapped up the scoring department.

In the second half both teams seemed more intent on by-passing their midfield, pumping over the top long balls from the back to their strikers, leaving the midfielders looking on as if they were at Wimbledon's centre-court.

A jubilant Melbourne Croatia coach, Peter Ollerton, said after the match: "I was very happy with the result. We came for a point and got it. We must collect as many points as possible over the next three rounds as in the last round we have a bye."

Eddie Thomson, Sydney Olympic's boss, reflected: "It was a fair result, but we lacked aerial power and missed John Kosmina and Tony Dakos."

Stars for Melbourne Croatia were Wallace and Lewis, plus goalkeeper, Runje and the defence. Olympic's best were Estavillo, Gary Phillips, Patalis and David Ratcliffe.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier, Phillips, Coady, Ratcliffe, Hooker, Hantzis, Johnston, Raskopoulos (Dragicevic 78th), Estavillo: Patalis, Saad (Haniotis 85th).

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje, Hannah, Dunn, McIntosh (Heys 61st), Dobson: Blacic, Herd (Scott 73rd), Milosevic, Davidson: Lewis, Wallace.
Referee: J. Reeves.
Crowd: 4,149.

More fun watching a balloon

By CON NIKOLOPOULOS

TO ALL soccer administrators wondering -why the crowds are running away from our game — may I suggest they study last Sunday's scoreless draw between Burnswick Juventus and Footscray.

If there was an award for the most boring National Soccer League fixture, Sunday's game would have received the strongest recommendation from the 1000 supporters who braved the cold and the rain to be bored to tears.

In fact, I derived more pleasure watching Alan Bond's airship hovering over Melbourne than following the game.

Footscray coach Dragoslav Sekularic was the first to admit the game was below standard, seemingly upset by the failure of his players to capitalise on their first half dominance.

But boring or not Footscray secured their future in the National League having established an irreversible six points lead over second-last Heidelberg.

The Blues had the better of the early exchanges and should have led their lethargic opponents from the first quarter of the game when Oscar Crino and Warren Spink missed a goalmouth cross by Zoran Dimitrijevic.

Dimitrijevic's venture up front was part of the tactics employed by Sekularic, having regard to the unavailability of Zdravko Lujic and the need to contain Juve's target men, Soccerroo Andrew Zinni and former Scottish professional Frank McGrellis.

Gary Van Egmond shadowed Zinni until he was taken off injured following a head clash and Tyron James blotted McGrellis out of the game.

The second half degenerated into a fizzer with neither side exercising initiative.

Footscray lost the little desire for Soccer they displayed in the opening half and Juventus continued dragging their legs.

Joe Palatsidis had a couple of glimpses but Footscray keeper Zoran Nikitovic foiled both efforts.

The game saw the return to the Footscray team of their talented sweeper Tom Karic, who had not played since dislocating his shoulder against South Melbourne.

BRUNSWICK: Marama, Durakovic, Lewis, Incantalupo, Brown, Yzendoorn, Cullen, Grbac (Belic 64), Palatsidis, Zinni (Fabrizio 80), McGrellis.
FOOTSCRAY: Nikitovic, James, Barjaktarevic, Van Egmond (Karic 69), Deankovic, Tapal, Murphy, Bozinovski, Crino, Spink, Dimitrijevic.

NATIONAL SCOREBOARD

By Courtesy of

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SYDNEY FISH MARKETS
GIPPS ST PYRMONT
2009

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THE NATIONAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
APIA-L'hardt.....	21	12	8	1	33	18	32
Marconi	21	9	5	7	34	24	23
Preston	20	8	7	5	26	19	23
South Melbourne	20	8	6	6	28	26	22
Syd Olympic	20	7	8	5	25	23	22
St George	20	9	4	7	24	22	22
Melb Croatia	21	9	4	8	21	26	22
Syd Croatia	20	8	5	7	27	19	21
Brunswick	20	8	4	8	15	17	20
Adelaide City	20	5	8	7	26	20	18
Footscray	20	6	6	8	12	22	18
Heidelberg	21	3	6	12	23	39	12
Sunshine	20	1	7	12	20	39	9

Melbourne Croatia has been found guilty of playing an unregistered player in its 1-1 draw with APIA at Lambert Park on August 23 1987. As a result of this breach of regulation, the match has been awarded to APIA with a 3-0 scoreline.

However it was recommended to the NSL Tribunal that no other penalty be applied. This recommendation has been agreed.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE RESULTS

SUNSHINE 2 (N Mitten 1, Markovski) drew with **MARCONI 2** (G Gomez, F Farina) at Chaplin Reserve. Crowd: 600.

ST GEORGE 1 (G Fletcher) **SYDNEY CROATIA 0** at Croatian Sports Centre. Crowd: 3710.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (T Patalis) drew with **MELBOURNE CROATIA 1** (P Lewis) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 4149.

PRESTON 4 (G Dimovski 3, S Jackson) **LEICHHARDT 0** at Connor Reserve. Crowd: 3500.

SOUTH MELBOURNE 1 (G McDowell) drew with **HEIDELBERG 1** (P Tsolakis) at Middle Park. Crowd: est 2000.

FOOTSCRAY 0 drew with **BRUNSWICK 0** at Olympic Park. Crowd: 1500.

THE NATIONAL TOPSCORERS

ROD BROWN Apia-Leichhardt	14
FRANK FARINA Marconi	12
PAUL LEWIS Melbourne Croatia	10
ROBBIE SLATER Sydney Croatia	9
JOE MULLEN Adelaide City	8
STEVE SMITH Preston	8
GRAHAM ARNOLD Sydney Croatia	7
RON CAMPBELL Preston	7
LAWRIE MCKINNA Heidelberg	7
CHARLIE VILLANI Adelaide City	7
PAUL WADE South Melbourne	7
PETER TSOLAKIS Heidelberg	7
IAN WALLACE Melbourne Croatia	6
STUART STEVENSON South Melb.	6
JOHN KOSMINA Sydney Olympic	5
SCOTT OLLERENSHAW St George	5
STEVE MAXWELL Marconi	5
GARY WARD Apia-Leichhardt	5
JOHN MARKOVSKI Sunshine	5
ZARKO ODZAKOV Syd Croatia	5



SOUTH MELBOURNE's DANNY CRAINIE (right) does a little jink to get around Heidelberg's JOHN KANESOULIS. The Greek-derby played at Middle Park was drawn in front of a disappointing 2000 crowd. Photo by Les Shorrock.

HELLAS OR BERGERS WHICH IS WHICH?

By LES SHORROCK

SOUTH MELBOURNE can consider itself extremely fortunate to have escaped from this Greek derby with Heidelberg with a 1-1 draw.

Any neutral observer could have been forgiven for thinking that it was South and not Heidelberg that was battling against imminent relegation as Heidelberg's attack clicked into top gear in an inspired opening spell.

Whether it was a magic spell woven by coach John Margaritis or whether it was a matter of rising to the occasion or whether it was just that Heidelberg finally managed to field its best possible combination we'll never know.

But whatever, it's a fact that Heidelberg on Sunday rose to heights that didn't seem possible in the aftermath of the Shepparton massacre and that traumatic outcome of the Scott Fraser affair.

The game was only 11 minutes old when Heidelberg swept down the left flank in a move involving four players which ended as John Anastasiadis squared a well-weighted ball into the path of Peter Tsolakis.

The wee winger pounced in delight and hammered the ball past South's stand-in goalie Con Giatas, and a boilover looked on the cards.

Visiting referee Arthur Owens had dished out the yellow card which it seems is obligatory in the first five minutes nowadays to show the players who's boss, and the unfortunate recipient was Gary McDowall.

The card was for a typical McDowall tackle, tough, uncompromising as always, but hardly a foul. Midway through the second half, McDowall mercilessly felled a Heidelberg player and we held our breath as Owens raced across to him — was he about to walk?

The offence merited a caution, but Owens didn't even wag an admonitory finger. McDowall escaped, and just as well for South, because in the 85th minute he was transformed from villain to hero as he stole South's equaliser.

That goal came against

the run of play and had an element of luck about it. Stuart Stevenson, who battled all day to shake off Steve Marley's terrier-like attentions, seemed to have lost the ball right in the corner, but the ball bounced kindly for him off the corner flag.

His resulting cross got the Berger defence in all sorts of bother and McDowall pounced to drive the ball past Jeff Olver.

The relief was palpable. Toilet rolls flew through the air and the previously silent South supporters found their voices at last.



South Melbourne celebrate

But the jubilation almost proved premature. Tiny Tsolakis, who had been a thorn in South's side throughout the game, nearly had the last laugh.

With the very last kick of the game, he took a free-kick that beat Giatas, only to see the ball hit the foot of the post and roll tantalisingly to safety as Owens blew the final whistle.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Giatas, Russell, McDowall, Blair, Wade, Crainie, Miranda, Anezakis, Halford (Postecoglou 70th), Wright, Stevenson.

HEIDELBERG: Olver, McKie, Marley, Hunter, Kanesoulis, Selmidis, Anastasiadis, Lucchesi, Ollerenshaw, Hagan (Illc 86).
Referee: Arthur Owens.
Crowd: 1500.

There is NO secret about our success says wily Frank Arok

By FRANK COLETTA

"WE have no secret," stressed St. George coach Frank Arok when quizzed on Saints' continued success.

"The boys are using possession properly and they're finding it very rewarding."

Arok was commenting after the Saints' 1-0 win Sydney Croatia, a team very much in the midst of a slump.

His counterpart Vedran Rozic echoed the sentiments of all at Croatia when he claimed: "We have forgotten how to score. Again we had a couple of good chances but as has happened over the past two months there is no result."

Usually a reserved character after a match, Rozic, who is sidelined for another fortnight with an ankle injury, made it

clear he would be promoting young Tony Krslovic for next weekend's match against Adelaide City.

Either Manis Lamond or Robbie Slater could be the one to make way for Krslovic, who has smacked 20 goals this year in the youth team.

The home side was up against it from the start when they took the field without Rozic, Anthony Franken and Graham Jennings.

Croatia's lack of potency in front of goal was evident as early as the fifth minute when Slater latched onto a pass inside the area only to see

his shot blocked by Mike Gibson.

Greg Woodhouse stepped in as Franken's replacement and filled his boots well for the second week.

The 27-year-old, who is still on the verge of quitting unless he receives a good offer from his current club or another, showed that the skills that took him to the top as the nation's number one just a half dozen years past have not deserted him.

He was called on to deny a rampant Pedro Ricoy after 24 minutes then a minute later he remained one on one with Scott Ollerenshaw and thwarted the striker via an

intelligent stop with his feet.

Just 30 seconds later he was in the action again as his long punt found Lamond steaming down on Saints' Mike O'Shea in defence. O'Shea's header back to his keeper was not enough and the flying Lamond snuck in behind to poke the ball past the onrushing Gibson, who upended the Croatian striker on the edge of the area as the ball bobbed against the post.

With eight minutes remaining before the half-time break Woodhouse showed his years of experience when he beat Alan Pottier to the ball

with a header outside the area.

Then with a minute left Graeme Fletcher struck the bar with his own header and then sent the kind rebound sailing over.

But the same man wasted little time making amends when six minutes after the interval he charged onto a clearance against the run of play, confronted and rounded Woodhouse to slip the ball in.

Both Slater and Lamond had chances to grab an equaliser, the best being in the 66th minute when David Rezo and Slater combined to open up a passage for Lamond. But he panicked

with his finish and the ball careered wide.

That's where the story lay.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Woodhouse, Rezo, Viletatra, Rumora (Cicato 60), Savor, Jones, Clinch, Odzakovic (Cerro 68), Lamond, Arnold, Slater.

ST. GEORGE: Gibson, Green, O'Connor, Moffitt, O'Shea, Grbevski, Ricoy, Pottier, Fletcher, Ollerenshaw, Hagan (Illc 86).
CROWD: 3710.
Referee: G.Power (Syd).

SAINTS DO IT AGAIN

GEORGIE READY TO FIGHT DOWN EVERY INCH OF THE NSL WAY

LOWLY-PLACED Sunshine George Cross staged a brilliant comeback to rob Marconi of a vital championship point and end up drawing 2-2 at Chaplin Reserve on Sunday.

George faced an 0-2 deficit after 58 minutes play, but fought gallantly to level the score just three minutes before full time.

Marconi started out as firm favorites, but the home team surprised them with some blistering attacks that forced the

visitors to retreat in their defensive shell.

While George Cross did most of the running, Marconi went in the lead with an impossible goal by Gerry Gomez.

The deadly midfielder cracked a shot from an acute angle which rebounded off the post into the net.

On recent performances he had not been excelling except for moves directly down the park, but this was something really out of the box.

Socceroo Frank Farina,

BY TOM PETERS

second on the NSL goalscoring ladder, scored Marconi's second goal just a few minutes after the resumption. The speedy forward beat the offside trap and smashed the ball in the net.

But George Cross were far from beaten. Their desperation paid a well-deserved dividend in the 74th minute when Noel Mitten found a gap in Marconi's defence and drove the ball past Bob Catlin.

It was this fine long-term campaigner's first goal of the league season, and his sterling effort put new heart into the Sunshine team.

Three minutes later the home team's outstanding prospect John Markovski levelled the score from the penalty spot.

Marconi defenders Paul Carter and Steve Calderan sandwiched brilliant young striker Paul Trimboli and the referee pointed to the spot.

John Markovski stood behind the ball and netted

the equaliser, thus reversing the trend of the game.

Marconi lost burly defender Calderan in the dying minutes of the game, for tripping Paul Timboli in his effort to stop the explosive striker from bursting in to the area.

George Cross have yet to disentangle themselves from the bottom of the table.

They are still three points behind Heidelberg.

From the Marconi viewpoint the dropping of a point has put them in a desperate position



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WOLVES ARE IN LINE FOR THE BIG DOUBLE

WOLLONGONG CITY defeated **Canberra Griffins** 1-0 at the Showground last Saturday evening but will have to enter the Grand Final without three of its regular defenders.

Scott Dickson aggravated an old injury and will enter hospital for an operation on his knee, while David Skeen and Giacomo Morlando fell foul of the yellow card and gained enough points to be sidelined for one match.

Morlando pulled Gardikiotis using his hands when the Canberra striker looked set to score midway through the first half and was booked.

David Skeen, likewise, was booked for an over zealous tackle on Suarez.

Control during the first period mainly due to its energetic midfield with Brian Cokely in very good touch.

But neither side looked intent on chasing goals at that early stage and the only goal of the game almost surprised everyone.

Mike Holifield punched a long clearance forward in the 17th minute but Steve Bryant appeared to have the situation in control as he turned around to find his keeper.

er it didn't come until the second period when the Griffins, led by the ever present Tom Sermanni came forward looking for an equaliser.

It was during this period that Suarez, Sermanni and Junna looked

nomopoulos but screwed his shot wide of the post.

Skeen and Cokely provided the spade work for Easthorpe to let fly.

However, Economo-

poulos in goal for Canberra was equal to the task making the best save of the match.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Young, Skeen, Holifield, Dickson, Morlan-

do, Cokely, Alnsworth, Brodnik (Kotamanidis 86th), Stefanovski, Easthorpe, Giraldi.

CANBERRA CITY: Economopoulos, Bryant, Dunn, Nelson (Wilcox 33rd), Mazla, Suarez, P.Reis, Sermanni, Junna, A.Reis, Gardikiotis.



Wolves' fullback Mike Holifield pictured with enthusiastic junior Christian Zelvis during a coaching clinic.

It leaves Holifield and Young in defence for the Grand Final, but with Hristovski and Kotamanidis in the wings Wollongong City could still come up with a reasonable defence for the Parramatta Stadium encounter.

The locals were in con-

His pass, however fell short of Economopoulos and Roberto Giraldi raced in to round the keeper then score from a very acute angle.

Despite the setback few believed that Canberra would let this game go without a fair try. Howev-



to have the better of the exchanges with the Wollongong City midfield.

Despite its territorial advantage Canberra seldom found an opening with its star striker, Alan Reis out of touch.

In fact the locals could have scored again as Stefanovski found Easthorpe in space and the rangy striker faced Eco-



SCOTT DICKSON (left), TOMMY SERMANNI (right).

BLACKTOWN IN THE FINAL

DEMONS KICK EAGLES OUT OF THEIR NEST

MELITA EAGLES bowed out of the play-offs following its 2-0 defeat at the hands of **Blacktown City Demons** at Marconi Stadium last Sunday.

Grant Lee in the 39th and Paul Kay in the 71st made the difference with well taken goals but the scoreline flattered the Eagles as Blacktown

squandered many opportunities.

Kay, the man who put the issue beyond doubt with 19 minutes remaining, had two sitters as did Adam Sandy.

Melita was on even terms during the first half with both sides intent on attacking and entertaining.

Despite much improved performance by Melita Eagles it was the Demons that broke the deadlock after 39 minutes.

Committed to attack Melita was left a little thin at the back and a long clearance found its way

to Lee, who raced through to face Gosling and lob him for the opening goal.

Melita stormed back from the opening whistle in the second half and set siege of Steve Watson's goal for some 20 minutes with Rodrigues hitting the crossbar and other shots being cleared off the line by desperate Demons defence.

Then came the turn around with Kay netting.

Two goals down Melita had to attack and throw everything forward.

With Craig Williams supporting the attack and Farrugia and Wellbourn thrown into the fray to support the attack little was left at the back to support Gosling and this was the period when the New Zealand international showed his best.

He made some superb saves to deny Blacktown during a total domination in the last 20 minutes of the match.

Kay faced Gosling twice and Adam Sandy once but neither could not find the net.

However, that made little difference in the final count as the Demons strolled into the final to be played next week, possibly at Melita Stadium against Canberra Griffins.

Kay was Blacktown's tyro while Melita had its best in Rodrigues.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Watson, Maier, Sterrey, Reynolds, Naumov, Denyer, Kay, Byrne, Sandy, Cotton, Lee.

MELITA EAGLES: Gosling, Cabassi, Williams, Robertson (Wellbourn 78th), Buchanan, Sacchiotto, Rodrigues, Vial, Serbas (Farrugia 78th), Farnsworth, Brown.



ALEX ROBERTSON



CLINT GOSLING (Melita)

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ALEX VESIC
reviews the
NSW State
Bank League

WARRINGAH Freshwater lost to **Rockdale Ilinden** at **Marconi stadium** last Thursday despite dominating the match.

Ilinden looked fractionally more interested in the points during the first period and got on top early. Its engineering department with an in-form Tortevski had Freshwater stretched several times.

An early through ball to Belceff saw this 17 year old face the keeper but he blasted his shot well over the bar and almost over the club house.

Tony Genovese looked in good touch as he nipped through a few times.

However, with time running out in the first half Genovese latched onto the ball some 25 metres from goal and on this occasion decided to shoot. His shot did not appear to have the strength to beat Warren but the young keeper reacted late and was beaten.



JIMMY CAMPBELL

Freshwater came out breathing fire in the second period and looked menacing indeed. Jimmy Campbell had some tussles with Vlado Tortevski while Mirko Radosavljevic started to move forward in search of an opening.

Despite its territorial advantage Freshwater looked to be less equipped in its front running department and subsequently toiled without result.

In fact its most dangerous raid came from its star player Radosavljevic. He went up for a free kick and almost deceived Zic.

Steve Knight was in great touch on the left flank and Porter was full of running in the middle of the park making life eventful for Ilinden's defence.

And while Rockdale Ilinden won the match and now has a chance of snatching fifth spot its coach Ilija Takac was not so lucky.

My old team mate earned the ire of the referee and was sent off from the field.

ROCKDALE: Zic, G.Wilson, Pilovski, Rodas, Tortevski, D.Wilson, Belceff, Dounis, Genovese, Souris, Markovski.

WARRINGAH: Warren, Cassachia, Radosavljevic, Dean, Knight, Campbell, Porter, De Ceglie, Gillan, Cleary, Oriene.

STATE LEAGUE TABLE									
WOLLONGONG CITY	26	20	2	4	61-30	42			
CANBERRA	26	18	4	4	53-19	40			
BLACKTOWN	26	19	1	6	60-19	39			
MELITA E.	26	16	5	5	54-30	37			
URUGUAYAN	26	11	4	11	45-41	26			
SUTHERLAND	26	9	8	9	31-35	26			
ROCKDALE	26	11	3	11	37-30	25			
INTER MONARO	25	8	6	11	45-55	22			
FRESHWATER	26	9	2	15	28-35	20			
KU-RING-GAI	26	7	5	14	29-40	19			
NEWCASTLE	26	8	3	15	35-48	19			
MACDONALD	26	5	6	15	23-44	16			
CANTERBURY	26	5	6	15	28-64	16			
MANLY WARR.	26	6	3	17	19-54	15			

DEMONS TO REVERSE RESULT

NEXT SUNDAY at Melita Stadium Blacktown City will meet Canberra Griffins in an elimination final to decide which team will enter the Grand Final.

Canberra Griffins with two wins over the Demons so far this season must rate as favourites. A 2-0 scoreline in each of those two wins must give the Griffins the confidence to succeed.

However, I believe that the Demons will reverse the result next Sunday and win by two goals to nil!

Manly are relegated

MANLY will be playing second division Soccer next year following its 2-1 loss at the hands of Inter Monaro at Cromer Park last Saturday.

It was a dismal showing by bottom placed Manly. Needing to win against Inter Monaro, the home team never showed enough fire power or aggression up front to cause the visitors any problems.

With the exception of a short period during the second half during which the home side netted through Paul Juergens to equalise, Manly was outplayed and outgunned and could have lost by a bigger margin.

Sebastian Giampaolo, still a crowd pleaser, caused Manly untold problems breaking their defence almost at will.

His foray midway through the first half drew Manly's keeper out of goal. With everyone looking for the shot, Giampaolo calmly chipped the ball into the path of Marko Perinovic who made no mistake.

Giampaolo continued to make room on both flanks and looked in superb touch as he toyed with Manly. Perinovic, tall and fast was ably supporting his playmaker and always looked dangerous.

Manly came back strongly in the second period and urged by the loud voice of Peter Dennis started to look menacing. A long throw in from the right hand side was missed by at least half a dozen players before Paul Juergens chimed in to hook it into the net and make it 1-1.

This scoreline looked to have Manly with the chance of a play-off with two other clubs, but it was soon to change.

A Shot by Gaggetti went over the bar, then an attempt by Perinovic was saved before Angelo Ambrosino raced forward with 10 minutes remaining.

His 30 metre drive helped by the tail wind had Manly keeper beaten all ends up to give Inter Monaro its deserved victory.

MANLY: Tingle, Dennis, De Graaf, Pearce, Sestanovich, Juergens, Williamson, Smith (64th Rimmer), Stuart, Carrick, Cimaroest.

INTER MONARO: Notaras, Domazetovic, Gaggetti, Arthur, Titilas, Ambrosino, Monterosso, Colbertaldo, Perinovic, Fernandez, Giampaolo.

The experience of Kay, Sandy, Byrne and Cotton and youthful exuberance of Reynolds, Maier and Lee, coupled with those safe hands of Steve Watson in goal must be a factor in a big match, such as this one.



Adam Sandy goes up

Canberra will offer Tom Sermanni as its general, and his support will come from the skilful feet of Suarez and Reis.



ALAN REIS (Canberra)

Steve Bryant will command his defence with Dunn, Nelson and Mazis well equipped to handle any attack.

Much will depend on the performances of both attacks and that will be the telling factor in this

match. Skill of Cotton, speed of Lee and support in attack of Kay and Sandy must rate as loaded

guns in comparison with the twin striking power of Gardikiotis and Alan Reis.

STATE SECOND GRADE

BLACKTOWN City Demons entered the Grand Final in the second grade competition after defeating Warringah Freshwater 1-0 at Marconi Stadium last Sunday.

After a dour struggle and with neither side able to penetrate Paul Quarmby scored from the penalty spot to earn the Demons a place in the Grand Final.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Hughes, Bennett, Burke, Edmonds, Fudge, Sharpe, Gendie, Ellem (Suman 64th), Thornthwaite, Moffitt, Quarmby.

WARRINGAH FRESHWATER: Lahiff, Cleary (Caurilloys), Folland, Placer, Evers, Sandtner, Duckling, Lucchesi, Roche, Lampard (Simpson), Nacinovic.

Melita Eagles earned the right to meet Warringah Freshwater in next week's final after defeating Sutherland Shire 1-0

in the elimination final last Sunday at Marconi Stadium.

It was yet another dour struggle for most of the match with neither side able to penetrate until late in the game.

Warren Dalton provided the difference with an 86th minute goal which sunk the hopes of Sutherland for a trophy in 1987.

MELITA EAGLES: Pupovac, Laing, Griffiths, Genovese, Gregson, Solidakis, LoCaputo (Krkovski 72nd), Smith, Dalton, Ortiz, Gilbert.

SUTHERLAND: Mrvic, Plache, Bond, Ball, Rankin, Ward, Cox, Enzo, Hargraves, Weemer (Duncan), Hill.

NSW WOMENS CUP

FROM THERESA DILLON

THE semi finals of the WSL Cup which was played on Sunday saw some surprising results. Two non-league teams were involved in the Reserve semi-final, Wenty Waratahs and Blacktown AG's with Wenty Waratahs running out 3-2 winners.

In the other semi-final Putney Town and Blacktown played an 0-0 draw after extra time. The match was decided on penalties with Putney winning by 3-0.

In the U15 semi-final Smithfield Black beat Gladesville Ravens 2-0 while in a very entertaining and exciting game of soccer North Rocks beat

Smithfield White 4-3 in extra time.

In the first grade semi-finals there were no surprises with Putney Town and Pagewood getting through to the final. Putney played Parramatta City had a hard job of beating them 1-0. Parramatta who dominated a lot of the game lacked striking power up front, but put up a tremendous performance against the League champions.

The finals will be played at Potts Park, Yagoona on Sunday September 20.

Reserve place final:
09.30 am Gladesville Ravens vs Revesby Workers.

11.30 am Smithfield Black vs North Rocks.

Reserve final:
1.00 pm Putney Town vs Wenty Waratahs.

First Grade final
3.00 pm Pagewood vs Putney Town.

NSW SECOND DIVISION

FROM JOHN MOLSKI

THE Second Division semi-final between Polonia and North Bankstown was literally dichotomized by contrasting play between the two halves.

Polonia was slightly more dominant in the first half but a lethargic finishing by both sets of forwards saw the scores locked at 0-0.

North Bankstown came out with more determination in the second half.

Polonia, although with a wind advantage, was defending grimly against Norths who were putting it altogether by running into open positions when off the ball.

However, the turning point of the game came ten

minutes into the second half.

Polonia forward Stefan Janic pressured the Bankstown right-back into making a pass from the right flank to where his goal keeper should have been.

At the same time the goalkeeper moved towards his right-back to make himself more available.

The end result was an own goal that had the unfortunate wretch nearly in tears for that was to remain the final result.

After this faux pas the standard of play of both sides deteriorated to make it a game of kick and rush.

The funereal atmosphere at the ground was a direct function of the non-existent promotion of this semi-final.

There was nothing to indicate that this game was a showcase of the skills of the leading second division clubs.

There was no match program.

There was no scoreboard.

There were no PA announcements of the teams or results.

One would expect all these to be present in a normal club game, let alone a semi-final.

The organisers should be thoroughly ashamed of themselves.

If this is an example of Second Division "promotion" it would be best to forget the whole fiasco and put the final four playoffs to a peaceful death in future years.

A REPEAT PERFORMANCE

NSW THIRD DIV

By WES SAWINA

THE Rooty Hill-Wests clash in the first semi final provided a repeat of their exciting meeting of a week earlier.

Hill surprised by taking the early initiative and were unlucky not to go into the lead through Jones in the sixth minute; his shot crashing against the upright before going out of play.

Having soaked up the early pressure, Wests gradually opened up. Bowen fumbled Pearson's effort in the 17th minute and was fortunate to recover before the ball crossed the line.

Three minutes later Dobson blasted a 30 metre free kick into the top corner to put Wests one up. Within minutes

both sides committed to offence. Guy should have equalised but drove high within a minute of the restart.



PETER SHARNE

Then in the 55th Carney could have made it 3-1 but failed to get a touch to Sharne's flashing cross. Sharne himself had an opportunity to seal the match but was outwitted by Bowen in a one on one situation.

A final flurry from Hill saw Gisborne tip over Connolly's header and Saunders hitting the bar to the relief of Wests players and supporters.

Carney put Sharne through for the second.

However, Hill were far from done with. Connolly and Parker split the West defence before Guy added the finishing touch and at halftime Wests lead 2-1.

The second period provided plenty of action with

Wests now go on to meet University of New South Wales at Parramatta Stadium on September 27th in the NSWFL extravaganza.

Both sides still have to meet in a play off for promotion to State League Division Two. That match

promises to be full of interest.

At Seymour Shaw the Students took on the premiers Granville-Chile and while neither side was at full strength spectators received good value for money.

Granville started confidently and soon had the Students defence at full stretch forcing Andrews to make a brilliant save after only five minutes.

Both sides settled into a fluent, short passing style relying on their skills rather than speed in search of openings.

As a result the ball switched from end to end with wing play a feature. Uni, inspired by Osborne looked particularly impressive.

On the other hand Granville always looked dangerous although they tended to bog down in front of goal.

The match was seemingly destined for extra time when Brooker broke down the right before hitting an inch perfect cross to Benecke who nodded home in the 89th minute for the only score.

In the lower grades Bondi, Rooty Hill, Campbelltown and Baulkham Hills all won through to their grand finals to be held at Popondetta Park this Sunday.

State Bank

★ State Bank Soccer League ★

CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19

MARCONI STADIUM

2nd grade 4pm: Melita Eagles v Warringah F/water

1st grade 6pm:

BLACKTOWN CITY v CANBERRA CITY

★ State League Second Division ★

CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20

CHOPIN PARK

3rd grade 12.30pm: SSC Yugal v Queens Park

2nd grade 2.30pm: Gladesville-Hornsby v Avala

★ State League Third Division ★

CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20

POPONDETTA PARK

3rd grade 12 noon: Bondi Marine v Rooty Hill

2nd grade 2.30pm: Baulkham Hills v Camp'town Gunners

GRAND FINALS SUN SEPT 27 PARRAMATTA STADIUM

State Bank

THE TITLE IS POLONIA'S AT LAST

Victorian State
League Round-up by
Les Shorrock and
Vlado Vlahovic.

By LES SHORROCK and VLADO VLAHOVIC

MARIBYRNONG Polonia wrapped up the State League championship last Sunday with its win over Caulfield City

Its success, after a 26 year lapse, was well-merited.

Polonia has not only been the most consistent team in the League, it has had to survive a traumatic coaching change and the absence through injury over the last six weeks of its best striker Greg Warszawski.

With the championship over, and the final four virtually settled, attention shifts to the absorbing relegation struggle.

The question of who will accompany doomed Broadmeadows into the First Division still remains unanswered as Northcote hurdled over Frankston Pines last week.

Oakleigh inched closer to safety with a draw against Croydon and now it seems likely that Pines will be the club to take the drop.

It faces two hard opponents in Thomastown this week and Springvale the week after.

But Northcote is by no means out of the woods either.

It faces St. Albans on Sunday and then Fawcner next week and it would not surprise if it lost both games.

This week's tips: Saturday: St. Albans, Caulfield. Sunday: Thomastown, Box Hill, Croydon v Green Gully (draw), Oakleigh, Fawcner v Springvale (draw).

STATE LEAGUE

AS AT SEPTEMBER 13
FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Maribyrnong.....	27	17	6	4	42	23	40
Fawcner.....	26	15	6	5	40	23	36
Green Gully.....	26	12	11	3	40	26	35
Caulfield City.....	26	12	9	5	36	22	33
St. Albans.....	26	10	10	6	32	28	30
Thomastown.....	26	10	9	7	29	31	29
Morwell Falcons.....	27	7	12	8	29	27	26
Springvale City.....	27	7	11	8	31	30	25
Western Suburbs.....	26	9	6	11	37	37	24
Croydon City.....	25	5	13	7	25	26	23
Box Hill.....	25	6	10	9	33	28	22
Oakleigh.....	26	8	5	13	36	41	21
Northcote City.....	26	7	5	14	24	46	19
Frankston Pines.....	26	6	6	14	32	48	18
Broadmeadows.....	26	3	3	20	21	51	9



17-year-old debutant ADAM BYRNE of Croydon holds off PETER VARDAXIS (Oakleigh). Photo — Les Shorrock.

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Northcote far from safe

NORTHCOTE City disentangled themselves from the bottom of the State League table with a narrow win 1-0 over bottom placed Broadmeadows City.

However, the erratic side is far more form safe with Frankston Pines breathing down their neck.

The difficult task of staying off relegation lies ahead of them. They will have to survive the remaining clashes against title aspirants Fawcner at home and top four hunters St. Albans away.

Northcote's encounter with the prospective wooden spooners was a drab affair that gave the spectators very little to enthuse about.

The only highlight was the goal scored by striker Peter Constantinou after two minutes when Broadie keeper Darren Pace spilled a cross.

Northcote President Steve Ridis is optimistic his team will stay in the competition.

"No doubt the last games of the season are against top teams, but I am certain the boys will give them their best shots," Ridis told us.

"Our players realise the importance of the remaining games for our survival and will fight de-



CAULFIELD'S PAUL GRIFFIN.

sperately to achieve results."

NORTHCOTE: Giannopoulos, Tsangas, N. Constantinou, P. Ridis, Gourlanos, Leonardos, Ramos (Hatzilazaridis 80), Small, Giannopoulos, Temos, P. Constantinou Ramos (J. Constantinou 46).

BROADMEADOWS: Pace, Smart, D. Blair, T. Gantar, Donaldson, Higham, Vizzini, Nolan, J. Gantar (Soccer 50), S. Blair, Borg.

Harris joined Caulfield from the English Southern League midway last year and according to tipsters he is the favorite to win this year's Rotham's Medal.

But according to reliable sources Caulfield will pick-up former Footscray and Blacktown forward Joe Carroll, currently playing for Bayswater in the premier division of Western Australia.

Polonia wrapped up the game in the second half. Leading striker Kees Storm connected with a cross from Januz Baran to slam the ball in the net.

POLONIA: Kostazawa, Liparski (Wyslak 75), Checutti, Bennett, Kotzamihallis, Baran, Nelson, Czapnik, Flavell, Lalic, Storm.

CAULFIELD: Madjer, Filippou, Michael, Harris, Koutos, Theoharous, Sahinidis (Biteonis 70), Griffin, Delligiannis, Pappas, Abraham (Tistardis 46).

A TALE OF TWO GOALS

By LES SHORROCK

THE GOAL that Ally Dick scored to save a point for Oakleigh against Croydon in their 1-1 draw last Saturday could prove to be the most valuable he will ever record.

Oakleigh had seemed to be looking down the barrel after Croydon had taken the lead through full-back Mark Brown in the 26th minute, but jack-in-a-box Ally popped up unexpectedly and levelled the score on the hour, to send the Oakleigh faithful home reasonably happy.

Brown's goal was a noteworthy occasion too. Goals by the fullback are rare enough to be classified by the National Trust.

Long time Croydon supporters were to be seen scratching their heads and trying to recall his last success.

One ventured his opinion that it was as long ago as 1979, whilst the hero

Pines are in crisis

MORWELL Falcons easily accounted for **Frankston Pines** with a 1-0 win at **Crinigan Reserve** last **Saturday** and brought much-troubled Pines to crisis point.

Pines' last two matches are against **Thomas-town** at home this week and against **Springvale** away next week, fixtures that will prove a stern test.

Pines' game plan against **Falcons** was one of containment, but it didn't work too well, and it was only poor finishing by the home side that kept the score to one goal.

Falcons' coach **Dave O'Connor** described his team's finishing as 'diabolical' and said he was more worried that his team might beat itself rather than lose through Pines' efforts.

However, his team redeemed itself somewhat with a winning goal 15 minutes from time that was a classic.

Graham Tutill crossed a ball from the right that was flicked on by **Eric Sostac** to **Stan Webster**. He chested the ball down cleverly and volleyed it home from the edge of the box, giving goalkeeper **Branko Radov** no chance.

MORWELL: Prezioso, M. Cassar (Colochello 35th), Gortis, Clarke, Brunt, E. Cassar, O'Callaghan, Doyle, Tutill, Bezzina (Sostac 56th), Webster.

FRANKSTON: Radov, Bentley, Paulding (Lewis 60th), McDonough, Thurlow, Bozic, Riley, Ferris, Miller, Watson, Buchanan.

himself, after some deliberation decided that he last scored four years ago.

"I tried to cross the ball to **Graham French** at the far post, but the ball skidded off my boot and went just inside the near post," he said. No wonder Oak-

leigh goalie **Mike Iaokamidis** was baffled!

Croydon President Mike Antolos told me after the game that now relegation has been averted he is already working to stabilise the club for next season.

Coach **Miron Bleiberg**

GREEN GULLY CEMENT SPOT

GREEN GULLY cemented their position in the top four with a slender 1-0 win over depleted **Western Suburbs**.

Having lost their firing power **Western Suburbs** became easy prey for the eager **Green Gully** side.

The departure of dynamo forward **Andy Edwards** to the **United Kingdom** and the leisure break granted to **Darren Tuck** adversely affected the performance of **Wests**.

Both players led the team superbly through the rough passages of the championship.

Green Gully dominated the game throughout and should have scored a pack. Particularly, midfielder **Les Carter** should have scored three times, but he blasted two of his efforts against the crossbar.

Spurred by player-

coach **Tommy Cumming** **Gully** continued tearing gaps in the opposing defence but the elusive goal did not arrive until 10 minutes before time.

Steve McLelland connected with a corner to score with a tremendous header.

But the two points did not change **Gully's** fate. The former leaders of the competition drifted five points from the lead and lost every hope of snatching the title.

WESTS: Hatzilazarou, McLeod, Humili, Dimovski, Esposito, Kyriazis, Stefanidis, Cullen, McLuskey, Minh (Roubos 80), Kadouris.

GREEN GULLY: Sant, Hogben, Douglas, O'Donnell, Cannell, McLelland, Grimaud, J. Sweeney, Quigly, Cumming (J. Sweeney 75).

FAWKNER ALIVE

FAWKNER kept alive its faint championship hopes with an unconvincing 2-0 win over **Thomastown** on **Sunday**.

Thomastown should have been three goals in front before **Fawknor** had got into its stride, but squandered chances like a drunken sailor ashore.

The main offender was **Kevin Carfora**, who missed all three chances from close range.

Left unchallenged in front of goal he headed wide, then he headed a perfect cross over the bar.

Then, with only the goalkeeper to beat, he shot wide. Whilst **Thomastown** was working overtime beating itself, **Fawknor** took advantage of its one opportunity to take the lead.

A misplaced clearance by **Thomastown** defender **Andy Higgins** went

straight to **Fawknor** striker **Ian Tuffield** who gratefully lobbed over **Mario Raponi's** head.

Fawknor keeper **Wilson** kept his side's lead intact when he made a superb save from **Frank Arcoraci**, flinging himself backwards to tip the ball over the bar.

Then against the run of play, **Fawknor** went two goals up after **Doug Brown** had pounced on a weak back-pass and put **Frank Sabatino** clear to score with a deflected shot.

THOMASTOWN: Raponi, Cosentino, Higgins, McMillan, Arcoraci, Carfora, Cristaldo, Mihailidis, Coyle, Athersych, McGuinness.

FAWKNER: Wilson, Walsh, Fatore, Schipano, Bordignon, Ferla, Verechia, Mancinelli, Sabatino, Tuffield, Brown.

will be retained and will be assisted by **Jim Tansey**.

For its part, **Oakleigh** is still seeking a coach and recently interviewed **Gus MacLeod**, but he declined the offer.

OAKLEIGH: Iaokamidis, Laletas, Kalifatidis, Langsbury, Cumming, Politis, Gourillas, Ross, Irvine, Dick, Vardaxis.

CROYDON CITY: Waterman, Brown, Tansey, Brack, van Egmond (Byrne 65th), Beech, Livingstone, Redmond, French, Brogan, Nelson.

Final four hopes are gone

SPRINGVALE probably put paid to **St. Albans'** final four hopes with a 3-1 victory in a very entertaining match.

Springvale, in what was probably its best display of the season, was on top from the kick-off.

After much pressure they soon had their reward, as **Mick Kral** was pushed off the ball in the penalty area and **Greg House** fired home the spot-kick.

The goal separated the two teams at the break and after half-time **St. Albans** came out determined to grab the initiative away from **Springvale**.

It soon gained a reward. **Springvale** defender **Jim Williams** brought down **Ante Kuzman** in the box and leading goalscorer **Dennis Morovic** tucked away the spot-kick.

The goal sparked **Springvale** into life and minutes later the ever-alert **House** put his side ahead again with a diving header after **Robert Stewart's** fierce drive had rebounded from the **Saints'** crossbar.

House completed his hat-trick in the 71st minute when he completed a delightful move initiated by **Stewart** and **Paul Hennessey**.

Although **St. Albans** never gave up trying, **Vale** goalkeeper **Dennis Boland** and his fellow defenders easily coped with everything that came their way.

SPRINGVALE: Boland, Bannon, Kral, Rolleman, Williams, Black, Stewart, Swinscoe, Hennessey, House, Morrey.

ST. ALBANS: Radov, Colina, Kuzman, Krajacic (Dragovic/Kelic H.T.), Duzel, Gagula, Cullina, Morovic, Runje, Rastocic.

AI5 BOXES HILLMEN

RON Smith's wonder boys added another skull to their collection last **Sunday**.

The boys from the Institute downed **Box Hill** 3-0 in a very closely contested game.

Two goals in the opening half of the game enabled the Institute to establish a convincing lead and eventually add another two 'non-competition' points to their impressive tally.

John Koch opened the Institute's scoring in the early stages of the game and **Dean Nicolaou** consolidated the lead before half-time.

Nicolaou outpaced **Box Hill** defender **John Morrey** on a run and the frustrated defender fouled the speedy youngster inside the box. The referee awarded a penalty which

was duly converted by **Nicolaou** himself.

Soon after the interval the **AI5** boys killed off **Box Hill** with their third goal.

Box Hill keeper **Bob McKinley** spilled a powerful shot by **John Koch** and the prolific scorer tapped the ball in the net with his second attempt.

Box Hill lost heart after the third goal but their opponents maintained their momentum till the end of the game emerge worthy winners.

BOX HILL: McKinlay, Morrey, Dimitriou, Roodhouse, Hennessey, Brimmer, Buton, McArthur, McBride, D. Morrey, McAleer.

AI5: Mower, Clarkson, Cumming, Morrat, Foster, Gibson, Polak (Riddell 51), Koch, Nicolaou, Edwards, Cole.

STATE LEAGUE RESULTS

WESTERN SUBURBS 0 **GREEN GULLY** 1 (McClelland).

SPRINGVALE 3 (House 3) **ST. ALBANS** 1 (Morovic).

OLONIA 1 (Storm) **CAULFIELD** 0.

THOMASTOWN 0 **FAWKNER** 2 (Tuffield, Sabatino).

OAKLEIGH 1 (Dick) **CROYDON** 1 (Brown).

NORTHCOTE 1 (Constantinou) **BROADMEADOWS** 0.

MORWELL 1 (Webster) **FRANKSTON PINES** 0.

BOX HILL 0 **AI5** 2 (Koch, Nicolaou).

VICTORIAN FIXTURES

VIC STATE LEAGUE

SATURDAY SEPT 19th RD 29
St Albans v **Northcote City**, **Caulfield City** v **Morwell Falcons**.

VIC STATE LEAGUE

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20th
Frankston Pines v **Thomastown**, **Western Suburbs** v **Box Hill**, **Croydon City** v **Green Gully**, **Broadmeadows** v **Oakleigh Fawknor** v **Springvale City**, **AI5** v **Maribyrnong**.

VIC LEAGUE DIV 1

SATURDAY SEPT 19th RD 26
Essendon City v **Ringwood City**, **Doncaster Rovers** v **Nunawading City**, **Altona Gate** v **Albion Rovers**, **Knox City** v **Sm Mordialloc**, **North Dandenong** v **Sunbury United**, **Bulleen** v **Werrbee**, **Melbourne** v **Richmond**.

VIC LEAGUE DIV 2

SATURDAY SEPT 19th RD 26
Eltham v **Mooroolbark**, **Clifton Hill** v **Doveton**, **Westgate** v **Mornington**, **Altona City** v **North Geelong**, **Waverley City** v **Prahran City**, **Dandenong City** v **Ringwood United**, **Hamlyn Rangers** v **Sandringham**.

VIC LEAGUE DIV 3

SATURDAY SEPT 19th RD 26
Clarinda v **Geelong**, **Port Melbourne** v **Coro-Geelong United**, **Moorabbin City** v **Rosanna**, **Moreland Park Rangers** v **Springvale United**, **Kailor** v **Yarraville**, **Bell Park** v **West Brunswick**, **Ferntree Gully** v **Yallourn**.

VIC LEAGUE DIV 4

SATURDAY SEPT 19th RD 26
Keysborough v **Holland Park**, **Diamond Valley Utd** v **Langwarrin**, **Hawthorn** v **Lalor United**, **Coburg** v **Prahran**, **Boronia** v **Williamstown**, **Karingal United** v **Pascoe Vale**, **East Brunswick** v **Seaford**.

TOP SCORERS

17: **D. Morovic** (**St. Albans**); 14: **J. Sweeney** (**Green Gully**); 12: **D. Brown**, **I. Tuffield** (**Fawknor**); 11: **R. McGuinness** (**Thomastown**).

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JOHN KOCH — AUSSIE UNDER 20 HERO



Johnny Warren looks over the early career of another Youth international — JOHN KOCH

NOT so long ago a twelve year old Brisbane schoolboy was at the crossroads of his sporting career.

Like so many multi-talented, young, sporting Australians, John Koch was into everything — and to make matters worse, and his decision more difficult, he was excellent at the lot.

Hooker for the school rugby league team, rover with the local Australian

rules side, a representative cricketer and a more than useful midfielder with the Pine Rivers Soccer Club in Brisbane, where he had played since the age of four.

Just which sport to concentrate on was made more difficult by the fact that his school, Bray Park Brisbane, only played rugby league and young Koch, as hooker, was literally the leader of the pack with his schoolmates.

Thankfully, selection in the Queensland under 13 rep soccer team, made up Koch's mind that soccer, and not rugby league and Australian football was where his future lay.

Today, in his third year at the AIS and a key member of our Chile-bound Young Socceroos, Koch is convinced he made the right decision.

So too are those that matter in Australian Soccer who see the brightest of futures for 19 year old Koch.

Ability

According to Young

Socceroo coach Les Scheinflug Koch is "an exceptional talent with tons of natural ability".

"He is a born soccer player though his biggest problem is that he's a bit of a dreamer during the game," says Scheinflug of his utility player.

Koch agrees with his Young Socceroo coach, listing concentration as his biggest weakness.

"I tend to drift in and out of games too much. Hopefully with attention, experience and maturity I will be able to eliminate this problem," says Koch.

Assistant Young Socceroo coach Victor Fernandez sees Koch in a similar light.

"He's an excellent prospect able to play equally well at the back, in the middle or up front".

Fernandez adds "he's a terrific two footed, skilled player with a tremendous shot in both feet and scores a lot of goals coming from behind."

In view of Scheinflug's and Fernandez' comments it is not surprising to find Koch admires the play of England international Glen Hoddle.

"I like to play rather than fight in the middle of the park", he says.

Banking

A trainee executive with the Commonwealth Bank at Belconnen Mall ACT, Koch, unlike most players, enjoys a tremendous support from his employer, particularly manager Ron Dowling, when it comes to time off for the Young Socceroos and AIS duties.

"Mr Dowling and the Commonwealth Bank have been great with my soccer commitments, especially this year when we've been to New Zealand for the qualification matches, over to Noumea for three games and now Chile coming up in October," says a grateful Koch of his employer.

Bank work aside, Koch,

like most youngster sees the ultimate as playing for the Winfield Socceroos.

First though is the World Youth Championships where Koch hopes the Young Socceroos "can go one better than previous teams," a place with an NSL club next year and chancing his arm in Europe "in either England or Holland, where my folks originally come from".

THE JOHN KOCH PROFILE

NAME:	John Koch
AGE:	18
D.O.B.:	26/6/68
HEIGHT:	182cm
WEIGHT:	77kg
POSITION:	Midfielder
PREVIOUS CLUBS:	Pine Rivers Utd
STATE:	Qld
AGE GROUPS REPRESENTED:	U/13 to Youth
AUSTRALIA U/16 REP:	—
AUSTRALIA YOUTH REP:	Oceania qualifying series 1987
OCCUPATION:	Bank Officer
OTHER:	AIS scholarship holder 1985 & 1986

Born Brisbane, June 26, 1978

Father Fred, Mother Robyn

Brothers Clayton 17, Nicholas 9, Sister Maria 14 (Clayton is a member of the Queensland Schoolboys team)

Other interests: Watching and playing all sports

Playing Career

Started as a 4 year old with the Pine Rivers Club Brisbane

Under 12-under 15 Brisbane rep team

Under 13-under 18 Queensland rep team, winning under 15 and under 18 national titles

Three years with Australian Institute of Sport

Two years with Young Socceroos

Favourite overseas players: Hoddle, Karl Heinz Forster, Elkjaer

Favourite local players: Paul Wade, Vicente Estavillo, Robbie Hooker

Favourite overseas team: Liverpool

Favourite local teams: Adelaide City, Sydney Olympic

John is an all round player who has the physical and technical qualities to play in any position except in goal. He will be one of the key players in the National Youth team and a target for any National League coach who sees him play.

The 21 member train-on squad was chosen after the inaugural Aboriginal Indoor Soccer Championship, when teams from NSW, north, south and east Queensland, Victoria, ACT, South Australia and the Northern Territory competed in a round robin.

Aboriginal Indoor Team

READY FOR TOUR

FROM MAL GRIEVE

AN Australian sporting first kicks off late in November when a representative Aboriginal team leaves Australia to play against both the national team and an indigenous indoor soccer team in Canada.

Preparation for the event began at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra last month, when 21 young Aboriginal sportsmen from around the country gathered for a training course to fine-tune their indoor soccer skills.

The training course was organised jointly by the Australian Indoor Soccer Federation, the AIS National Coaching Centre and the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

The Federation has arranged a three-match program against Canada's national team. The Aboriginal team will also play three matches against a team made up of indigenous Canadians from the province of British Columbia.

"The idea for a tour was sparked by two events -- the thrilling action of the Pacific Basin competition in July, and the successful National Aboriginal Indoor Soccer Championship held in Canberra earlier this year," said AISF tour official David Smart.

"The Championship, organised by the AISF and the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, was a milestone for Australian Aboriginal sport, and an important step forward in the national development program currently underway for indoor soccer," he said.

After two days of intense competition NSW downed South Australia 8-2 in an exciting final.

In July Australia hosted the first Pacific Indoor Soccer Cup, and Mexico, the United States, Canada, Japan and New Zealand competed at the National Indoor Sports Centre.

Canada played well to finish fourth in the competition but will have a chance to do better when the United States hosts the second Pacific event next year.

"In the finale to a magnificent series, which featured some of the best indoor soccer players in the world, Mexico downed Australia in the final in front of nearly 3,000 people," said Mr Smart.

"It really showed how exciting this sport can be," he added.

a national Aboriginal team to Canada.

The Federation accepted the invitation and approached the Department of Aboriginal Affairs for support, explaining that the trip would maximise both sporting and cultural opportunities.

Team Manager is David Branson from South Australia, and Team Coach is Jim Roberts from the ACT, who is also the Assistant Coach for the Australian National team.

The Secretary of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Charles Perkins -- well known for his efforts on the soccer pitch -- has given his full support to the tour proposal. He believes the training will have two benefits.

"At the personal level, it will enhance the individual's ability to compete at a higher level.

"Secondly, when the tour is over, I hope these talented young sportsmen will share with younger Aboriginals the knowledge and experience gained at training and in competition.

"This will bring a new generation of trained, experienced indoor soccer players to communities around the country, further encouraging involvement in the sport and lending greater impetus to the national development program," he said.

Players

The squad is: Jimmy Bell (19), Robert Davis (23), Richard Davis (25) and Brian Brown (28) all from Wollongong, NSW; Bill Cooper (24) and Keith Brandy (34) from the ACT; Chad Miller (18), Eddy Hocking (17) and Harry Dare (32) from South Australia; Trevor Bowman (30) and Laurie Munns (22) from Mt Isa in Queensland; Jason Karakaki (17) from Mackay. Reserves are: Eddie Savage (17) from North Queensland; Robert Wales (22) from NSW.

The final word about the tour from David Smart: "Don't let anyone mistakenly gain the impression that this squad lacks the skill, dedication and zest to excel for Australia's sake. We're amazed at the raw talent available.

Feeler

During the Cup Canadian officials approached the AISF with the idea of sending

*Mal Grieve is a journalist with the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs in Canberra.

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AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINALS READY FOR CANADA TOUR



BACK ROW: L to R: Chad Miller, Robert Davis, Trevor Bowman, Richard Davis. MIDDLE: Laurie Munns, Bill Cooper, Jason Karakaki, Jimmy Bell. FRONT: Eddie Savage, Keith Brandy, Brian Brown, Harry Dare.

HOLROYD U17 WOMEN v AUCKLAND



THE Auckland U17 and Holroyd Ladies Soccer Association (Sydney) U17 representative teams line up for the photographer at the Fred Caterson Reserve, Castle Hill. The huge and highly organised Castle Hill Sports and Recreation Club set a high standard in their hospitality for the New Zealand visitors.

LENNY VIAL

(Melita Eagles NSW)

Full name: Lenny Vial
Birthplace and birthdate:
Sydney, 5/6/65
Previous Clubs:
Gladesville-Hornsby
(Juniors) Auburn S.C.
Nickname: L.V.

Height & weight: 178cm,
75kgs

Marital status: Single
Job or trade: Gardener
Home: Newport Beach
Favourite current player
overseas: Glen Hoddle
Favourite current player
locally: Gary Phillips
Favourite all time great:
Pele

A rising star: Mark
Reveley

Boyhood hero: Atti Abonyi

Team you supported
when young: Sydney City

Favourite other sports:
Surfing and all sports

Most Memorable Match:
CHS final vs Victoria,
scoring a hat trick.

Biggest disappointment:
Not being selected in
Australian Youth Team.

International Honours:
Australian Schoolboys
1981.

Club honours: Auburn 3rd
Grade, Melita NSL U/19
Youths 1984, 1st Grade
1985 State League final.

Hobbies: Guitar playing &
surfing, live bands.

Favourite Showbusiness
people and shows: Clint
Eastwood, Eddie Murphy,
Hey Hey It's Saturday.

Favourite Music and
Performers: Simply Red,
Dire Straits, Stones.

Biggest influence on
career: My mother

Superstitions: To wear
two pairs of socks when
playing.

Ambitions for 1987: To be
promoted to NSL.

Long term ambitions: To
represent Australia and be
happy.

Alex Bundalo troubled . . .

APIA WINS IN STYLE

DESPITE the fact the APIA were crowned National champions following the NSL's decision to penalise Melbourne Croatia a point for fielding an unregistered player, the victory was not as anti-climactic as some would think.

Coach Rale Rasic stressed the point: "A team that goes undefeated in 21 games won the title throughout the season, not on the day the point was taken off Croatia and given to us."

"Our loss to Preston at the weekend was a major disappointment but that is football and it will work in a way to our advantage. The pressure is off the boys and it is some relief. The championship is won and we will bounce back and probably be better off for the defeat."

Rasic claimed the success as the greatest achievement in his illustrious Soccer career, bigger even than taking the Socceroos to the 1974 World Cup finals.

Full credit to him, a title won in grand style in just his second year with the club — a fine performance.

Meantime APIA's aspirations for further success in the upcoming finals have been hit with a setback as Alex Bundalo's groin injury is taking an excruciatingly long time to heal.

Bundalo has been troubled by it throughout 1987 and has been wearing a cut-down wet-suit in an attempt to overcome the problem. In spite of producing good form he has struggled and the news is

that he may well miss the rest of the season.



ALEX BUNDALO.

W.A. JEANS WEST \$1000

One other point of interest in the Western Australian State League is just who will win the Jeans West \$1000 goalscorers award.

John Hunter of Macedonia and Mike Smith of Dalmatinac are locked together with 16 goals. But a hat-trick to Paul (Budge) Middleton of Tricolore and two of Azzurri's Ian Ballentine has left them on 15 goals each.

THE Australian Sports Medicine Federation conducts a 25 hour course which introduces sports trainers, coaches, teachers and parents to the basic theory and practice of sports first aid and sports medicine, including injury prevention.

For further information on these courses contact Win Boyden on 636 6282 or Robin Parkinson on 241 3541.

With the present emphasis on safety in sport, it is imperative that personnel involved in the management of sports people are adequately equipped to deal with basic sporting injuries.

SYDNEY CROATIA

1988

☆ YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS ☆

- Tues October 6 — U13, U14
- Thurs October 8 — U15, U16/17

Starting 6pm at Mason Park
Homebush.

For further information ring Director of
Youth Coaching Leo Baumgartner

☎ 344 8098

—oOo—

Applications are invited from qualified youth coaches, closing September 30 for U13, 14, 15, 16/17, and addressed to Leo Baumgartner, 87 Wild St, Maroubra 2035.

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MIKE O'Shea again, getting to grips with Olympic's Stuart Johnston.

SUNDAY AT 2.30PM

YOUTH LEAGUE 12.15PM

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The Place — St George Stadium, Barton Park, Bestic Street, Rockdale

The Times — 1st Grade at 2.30pm Youth League 12.15pm



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Sunday 20th September

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APIA vs SOUTH MELBOURNE



SUNDAY AT 2.30PM

YOUTH LEAGUE 12.15PM

LAMBERT PARK

DON'T MISS THE EXCITING CLASH



CHARLIE YANKOS (APIA).



MARK BROWN.



STEVE BLAIR and GARY MCDOWALL sort out the defence.

Come see the champions take on a side desperate to make the final five!

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An Action-Packed Weekend!

ASW's photographers were right on the ball at the weekend, catching all the action in outdoor and indoor



PETER TSOLAKIS (right) of Heidelberg rounds the flying South Melbourne midfielder of Richard Miranda. Photo Les Shorrock.



SYDNEY OLYMPIC skipper PETER RASKOPOULOS flies through the air against Melbourne Croatia. Photo Modern Studios.



VICTORIAN State League. Oakleigh v Croydon City. JIMMY NELSON of Croydon (white shirt) receives an old fashion headlock courtesy of Oakleigh's JOHN CUMMING. Photo Les Shorrock.



CANBERRA Strikers' BILLY STEWART takes on the Sydney Tornados defence. Photo Michael Sara.



IVAN JADIC confronts TREVOR ORMORD (no.3) of the Tornados at Fairfield's Leisure Centre on Saturday night. Sydney beat Canberra 5-3. Photo Michael Sara.



HILTON SILVA sets himself about the Thomastown Twisties defence for Parramatta Spartans. Photo Carmelo Bazzano.

KING KOGARAH HIGH

KOGARAH High became the reigning champions of the 1987 OAK Bill Turner Cup when they defeated Umina High, from the Central Coast, 1-0 in extra time at Macquarie Field, Speers Point on Wednesday night, September 2.

Less than 36 hours earlier they had defeated Liverpool Boys High 2-1 in the semi-final, a match that had seen three postponements caused by the recent inclement weather.

Kogarah High out of the St George area of Sydney certainly kept alive the fact that the school has a fine Soccer tradition. In 1983 and 1985 the school's senior teams won the highly prestigious Combined High Schools Commonwealth Bank Cup.

In this final Kogarah started with a bang and had Umina back peddling for six or seven minutes. The Coasties soaked up the pressure and started to strike back. They certainly looked the better side for the remainder of the half.

Umina had a good chance of going one up but the ball was hand slapped away. Penalty!

The usually reliable Andrew French squared up but his shot was comfortably stopped by Bill Grozdanovski. Craig Page twice, Jason McElligott and Neil Burgess all had fair chances but could not convert.

Pierre Mattar was having a blinder at stopper for Kogarah.

With 10 minutes to go in the match proper, Kogarah came back with Mattar feeding the ball to Michael Reda, Hassan Reda, Hasan Kdouh and Lube Bavgangiovski in turn, but the powerful defence of Umina's Ron Dufficy, Troy Watterson, Dean Oliver,

Phillip Rayner and of course Andrew French held out.

Goalkeeper Marcus Smith made three fine saves.

Despite the 0-0 scoreline at full time the game had had plenty of thrills, skills and spills. Referee Mr John Tucker who had a particularly fine game sent them away for the additional 10 by 10.

Kogarah started just where they left off and gave the tiring Umina lads no peace. Lupco Romanovski and Steven Panagos were foreful. Neil Burgess, Lindsay Wood and Darren Elkin tried all night for the right pass for Umina.

The deadlock was broken when Pierre Mattar collected the ball near the Umina penalty area and lined up his shot. Young Marcus Smith appeared to have it well covered but to

his dismay and horror the ball deflected off the heel of one of his defenders and he had to watch helplessly as the ball nestled snugly into the back of the net.

Mr Tucker thought for sometime before officially registering the goal to Mattar instead of an "own goal".

Kogarah's jubilation almost brought them unstuck as all their players had swarmed to the grandstand side. As soon as the whistle sounded to restart play the Umina left side forwards plundered the Kogarah territory only to see their shot skim the bar.

With one minute to play Umina were again desperately unlucky. They threw everything and a little bit more at the Kogarah defenders striving for the qualiser.

Wave after wave attacked the Bill Grozdanovski defended goal. There



THE KOGARAH HIGH KINGS: Back Row: Nick Diniakos, Steven Panagos, Michael Reda, Pierre Mattar, Tony Boulos, Adel Bib. MIDDLE ROW: Mr Norm Landers, Coach: Michael Jaffar, Husan Reda, Muhomed Farhar, Lupco Romanovski, Spiro Sopovski (AIB). FRONT ROW: Ali Alaouir, Richard Droubl, Hassan Kdouh, Bill Grozdanovski, Lube Bavgangiovski.

were players everywhere. Tony Boulos blocked one, Michael Jaffar stabbed one away, Mahamoud Farhat belly stopped another and Pierre Mattar headed a pile driver outside the penalty area.

Four of Kogarah's five defenders found themselves unceremoniously tangled up on the ground in the six yard area when a Umina boot shot for goal.

The equaliser seemed certain. But it was not to be. The ball struck the leg of Michael Jaffar and bounced harmlessly away. Until he reads this, he may not even be aware that he unknowingly saved the match.

Mattar then rallied his side and held out the marauding Umina forwards until the final whistle.

Great game-excellent final!

Kogarah High 1 (Pierre Mattar) d Umina 0 after extra time. Referee Mr John Tucker. Crowd: 516.

KOGARAH: Bill Grozdanovski, Tony Boulos, Michael Jaffar, Mahamoud Farhat, Pierre Mattar, Lupco Romanovski, Lube Bavgangiovski, Steven Panagos, Hassan Kdouh, Michael Reda, Hassan Reda, Nick Diniakos, Richard Droubl, Adel Bib, Ali Alaouir. Coach: Mr Kevin Smith, Sportmaster/Manager Mr Cliff Wilkes.



Two Kogarah, Bill Turner Cup players receive their medals after winning the cup recently. From the left is: Hassan Kdouh and Hassan Reda.



Norm Landers, the successful coach of Kogarah High School, Bill Turner Cup team, receives his medal from Competition Co-ordinator Terry Hampton.



Bill Turner presents Michael Reda, the captain of Kogarah High, with the Bill Turner Cup following their sensational 1-0 victory over Umina High. Their match was decided at Macquarie Field, Speers Point on September 2. To win a competition featuring 330 schools was no mean feat. On the right is: Lube Bavgangiovski while in the background is Competition Co-ordinator Mr Terry Hampton.

LETTERS

WHY SUMMER

WHY is so much money being lost!

Because of no supporters?

Allow me to say something.

Do we want to promote Soccer in Australia?

What happens to our promising junior talent after having played for many years at junior levels?

Once they turn 19 or 20, where do they end up, and do they still play Soccer?

Could this be the reason why people stay away from Soccer?

The feeling of many clubs with ethnic background is not only to wear colours of the group for which they represent, but also to see at least 90% of the players coming from the ranks of their own community.

Let us give our juniors a better chance to play at senior levels.

Better judgement should be exercised by referees to keep the game flowing allowing the advantage when necessary and not whistle needlessly because at this rate Soccer is becoming very boring.

Furthermore perhaps it could be a good move not to have any more than two star players per team imported from elsewhere.

Why only take money away from junior clubs?

These suggestions could help in solving some of the problems that Soccer is facing in Australia and at the same time promote the game as Australia's no.1 sport.

For the past eight years I have been coaching Melbourne Croatia juniors and believe me a lot of talent has been coached by me, but I ask myself today what has happened to all these boys?

I had the pleasure to talk to some of the parents of the boys and the vast majority agree that Soccer is on the decline because coaches prefer to engage players from outside rather than give local talented players a chance.

We must adopt the same system as used overseas.

F. Monforte,
544 Mt Alexander Rd,
Ascot Vale
Vic. 3032

KOGARAH'S BUBBLING 'ALL ETHNIC' SHOW

"It was an incredible sight but very very funny." So said Competition Co-ordinator Terry Hampton recalling the arrival of the Kogarah High School, Bill Turner Cup squad at Fassifern Railway Station en route to Macquarie Field, Speers Point for the 1987 final.

But let us explain. On the way in the train the lads with all the quintessence of European charm had befriended the only two unmarried girls travelling north.

On arriving at Fassifern however they reluctantly said goodbye to their newly acquired friends.

Waiting to taxi the lads to Macquarie Field were Terry Hampton, Bill Turner, Dudley Lewis and John Hobson.

As the lads came the stairs the chorus started. "Which one is Mr Turner?" "Is Bill Turner here?" "Did Mr Turner come to meet us?"

The next minutes were hectic for Bill Turner, as each boy introduced himself and shook hands vigorously. Some of them actually came back a second and a third time to shake hands and have a reintroduction.

By the time he met them

all, Bill thought there must have been a squad of fifty.

He was positive that on a count the first time around, there were five captains, nine vice-captains and one poor lad who was severely injured, almost on death's door, but who still wanted to play.

He was asked "Have you heard of us?", "Do you know Kogarah?" "Do you think we'll beat Umina?" "We're all ethnic kids you know!" "I'm a Greek, he's a Macedonian!" "We're all very skilful!" "Will we have a good ref?" "We all talk a lot, Mr Landers thinks we're loud mouths!" etc etc.

Bill was so overwhelmed all he could reply was "Uh uh! ... Yes! ... I think so ... Perhaps ... is that so! ... Right!" ... or any cryptic reply he thought was appropriate for the moment.

The other men stood by wondering just what to do next. They wondered whether Bill would race for his car and screech off in a cloud of dust or seek refuge in the train that had just pulled in on its way to Sydney.

The only one unconcerned, was the teams coach and perfect foil, Mr Norm Landers. He seemed to enjoy the whole exercise. Being used to the squad, which could surely be described as effusive, effervescent, bubbling jovial and good natured, Norm Landers easily controlled the situation.

After allowing them to "bubble" for a time he quietly said "Right ... off to the cars". And that is exactly what they did.

But they actually didn't stop bubbling. They bubbled during tea, they doubled-bubbled during the

first half of the girls' final between Lambton and Cardiff, they bubbled while in the dressing room, they bubbled out on the field, they positively triple bubbled during the cup and medal presentation and probably bubbled all the way back to Kogarah.

The presentation itself was a scream. All have heard how people try and see how many can be crammed into a telephone box or a Mini Minor and this had similar overtones.

Fourteen players tried to crowd into a space large enough for five ... even though the whole walkway would have easily taken thirty.

Because of extra-time NSW co-ordinator Terry Hampton had to move quickly to get them back to Fassifern and the train to Sydney.

Unfortunately a couple of the lads had hardly what one would call a washup and they would carry back to Kogarah quite a quantity of Speers Point mud.

But what the heck, they'd won the Cup, after playing a semifinal and a

SHOW

final inside thirty six hours. A fine achievement.

They were great ambassadors for Kogarah High but what a pity the moment wasn't shared by their school mates, except perhaps, for a video.

The Umina lads were a total contrast to the Kogarah side. While certainly not overawed by the occasion the Central Coast boys were restrained and disciplined, and could even be regarded as conservative.

They are a champion side and very worthy finalists. Two bus loads and many cars with parents, teachers and students gave excellent vocal and moral support.

Brilliantly coached by Mr Kevin Smith, the side, and their school, should be justly proud of their second place out of a total of 330 schools. A very sincere, "well done!"

Hermiston gets . . .

IPSWICH TWITCH

FORMER National League player of the year and Queensland Soccer legend, Jim Hermiston, will coach XXXX League team Ipswich United next season.

Hermiston's return to the local scene follows 12 months on the sidelines after a pressure season coaching axed NSL team Brisbane City.

"I have enjoyed just sitting on the sidelines for a year and my batteries are re-charged. I am looking forward to getting back into it," Hermiston said after his appointment.

Hermiston, 39, a former Aberdeen player who must go down as among the most successful imports in Australian Soccer, replaces Matt Carson, who has coached Ipswich United for the past five years.

Carson announced early in the year he would move on if Ipswich United failed to win a trophy this year, and to his credit, has stuck by that word.

The Ipswich United committee considered asking Carson to stay and put a proposal to their first team players that Carson and Hermiston operate in a joint capacity for the 1988 season.

"We floated the idea with the players but they felt it would be better if they had only one boss," said Ipswich president Glenn McKeand.

"On that basis, the committee had to make a choice and Jim got the nod."

Carson led Ipswich to considerable success including premierships and grand finals and Hermiston acknowledges he will be a tough act to follow.

"I just hope I can do as well as Matt," Hermiston said.

Hermiston watched Ipswich United in the last three rounds, but has declined to reveal any plans for the 1988 season.

"Matt is a good friend and I will be waiting until he completes his job there before I move in any way," Hermiston said.

Hermiston, who rose to Australian fame as a brilliant sweeper in the Brisbane City and Lions NSL teams, will be hoping for a happier time at Ipswich United than he had at Spencer Park.

Under the selection criteria for this year's NSL, Hermiston had to produce a miracle to save Brisbane City from NSL axing, and when he failed to do the impossible, some at the club failed to understand.

"That's all in the past. This is a new challenge which I am eagerly looking forward to," Hermiston said.

DAVE WHEELER playing for Queensland against NSW's DAVID RATCLIFFE.



A DUO SET FOR THE OLD DART

TWO outstanding young Queensland players are set to head for Britain for trials with English clubs.

Australian Under 16 representatives Darren Freiberg and Damien Butler will head off in the next month for a taste of top professional football.

Freiberg, who was with the Joey in Canada this year, intends to trial with second division Barnsley.

Butler, who was a member of the Australian Under 16 team which reached the quarter-finals in China in 1985, has organised a trial at Everton and also may visit Carlisle.

Both players' hopes have been buoyed by the success of Eastern Suburbs youngster Scott Playle, who was offered a contract with Scottish giants Glasgow Rangers after a recent four-week trial.

At this stage, both Freiberg and Butler are treating their trials as a chance to gain experience and unless snapped up by a club, will return to Queensland for next season.

XXXX FINALS ON RADIO!

RADIO 4EB, fast becoming known as Brisbane's Soccer station, has introduced an exciting innovation into coverage of our code.

For the first time in Queensland Soccer, we will have the benefit of live radio coverage of the major semi final, the preliminary final and the grand final of the XXXX League.

The broadcast will be produced by "BB Sports Productions", the firm responsible for the weekly Soccer radio show aired on Saturday mornings on Radio 4EB.

Regular sportscasters Mark Brigden and Bob Butchard will do the commentary, ably assisted by several big name guests.

It is rumoured that the guest during the broadcast of the major semi final will be an Australian international.

Soccer is under fire in this state with two of the other three football codes going national, while the other possesses a huge marketing budget. Combine this with the high profile of basketball and Soccer is rapidly being squeezed out in any sports media coverage.

This concept was made possible by the sponsorship of Pin Constructions Pty Ltd, Steel Erectors at Darra in Brisbane. The principals of that company, Norm Hunter and Alex Hill, are two characters well known in local Soccer.

Not only do they have a high profile, but they each have two sons (Alan and David Hunter and Andrew and Adrian Hill) capable of playing at the highest level.

Pin Constructions were quick to realise the benefits that a live broadcast can have on the code. "If we can't get people to the game, let's take the game to the people. The more interest we can generate, the better the future for Soccer", Norm Hunter said.

It's a good thing that men of vision, with the courage to put their money behind their convictions, still exist in our code. Many people with only a passing interest in our game and

those regular listeners to Radio 4EB, Brisbane's Multilingual Station, can now be exposed to the excitement of our game.

So if you're in the Brisbane area on either Sunday the 20th or 27th of September, or the 4th of October, turn to Radio 4EB 1053 on the AM dial, to catch all the action of the XXXX finals.

— MARK BRIGDEN



KIM WISHART

COL BENNETT BACK?

FORMER Lions player and coach Col Bennett is rumoured to be making a return to the coaching scene with Rochdale Rovers.

But Ipswich United coach Matt Carson is believed to be leading the contenders for the job at the progressive southside club.

Bennett was player-coach with Rochdale in the old Intermediate League before he left the club to coach Lions at the beginning of the season, but in a shock move, Bennett announced his resignation three months ago, citing work commitments as the reason for his unexpected stand-down.

Rumours have persisted that there was more behind the split and Bennett really did not want to get out of the game.

Rochdale officials have declined to reveal whether Bennett is among the five applicants so far received for their XXXX League position, but they

have confirmed that Carson is among three "outside" applicants while the current player-coach is among two applicants who are presently with the club.

Carson is keen to secure a new side after leaving Ipswich United where he coached for five years.

"I have applied for Rochdale and I also will go for the Olympic and Redlands jobs," Carson said.

"There was a time when I probably would have waited for a club to approach me, but these days there are not too many jobs about. You've got to let the clubs know you are interested."

Carson, who has been replaced at Ipswich United by Jim Hermiston, is enthusiastic about the

possibility of coaching Rochdale who finished comfortably mid-table in their first year in the XXXX League.

"They did well enough this season to show that they mean business. I can see no reason why they can't go to the top," Carson said.

"But I am not counting my chickens before they are hatched. The club knows my credentials and it's up to them to make a decision."

The Rochdale committee will make the appointment at its next monthly meeting on Monday, October 5.

Meanwhile it seems unlikely Redland United player-coach Steve Perry will return in the same capacity at the club next season.

The former Socceroo has done a tremendous job to ensure the Bay-siders were not relegated in their first year in top company, working with a skeleton squad comprised mostly of youngsters.

And with the club indicating that not a lot of money will be available to strengthen the club next season it is understood Perry may have second thoughts about continuing in a coaching capacity.

"Now the season is over I will sit down with the committee and talk things over, but I am considering other options," Perry said.

Redlands have advertised for a XXXX League coach but their advertisement carried the rider that advertising for a new coach "was in accordance with club policy".



SUPER LEAGUE GRAND FINALS

GRAND finals at the Adamstown Sports Ground on Saturday night in the Under-13, under-14 and Under-16 age divisions will complete the first season of Junior Super League football in the Newcastle-Central Coast-Fields region.

The competitions have been largely successful in their inaugural year and will continue next season with the addition of an under-15 division.

No John McQuarrie

ADAMSTOWN'S HANDICAP

BY DAVE WILLIAMS

THE Northern NSW premier, Adamstown Rosebud, will go into next Sunday's grand final without its captain and midfield driving force, John McQuarrie.

The fair-haired dynamo, who starred in Adamstown's 3-1 major semi-final win against Belmont-Swansea United last Sunday week, received a yellow-card caution in the match that took him past the limit of four and resulted in him receiving an automatic one-match suspension.

Since the grand final is Adamstown's last commitment for the season, McQuarrie has been ruled ineligible to play in the game.

McQuarrie, when in the mood, has the ability and determination to take control of a match and stamp his own brand of authority on it. His absence will cause some thought before Rosebuds' team is chosen for Sunday.

Having to miss the grand final is the second big disappointment of the year for McQuarrie, who was poised to join Sydney City when the announcement came of the premier club's withdrawal from the West End National League.

NORTHERN NSW STAFF

Conducting the everyday affairs of a State Soccer Federation requires personal possessing high degrees of proficiency. This is certainly the case with the staff of the Northern NSW Federation. Simone Nicod, Narelle Dean (Company Secretary) and Kim Johnston (pictured here L to R in their white, black and red outfits) add far more than cool efficiency to the Adamstown office. Each of these very attractive ladies has a delightful personality. Their courteous attention to all callers to the office is very much appreciated. — B.T.

CITY HONOUR TO RUSSELL

AUSTRALIA's outstanding World Under-16 Championship goalkeeper John Russell has added another honour to his growing reputation.

On Saturday night at the Belmont 16th Sailing Club, John was named the Lake Macquarie Junior Sports-person of the Year.

The Lake Macquarie City Council initiated the Sports-person of the Year Award and the Mayor's Sports Administrators' Award two years ago, but this year, on the recommendation of last year's judging panel, including the junior award.

John was nominated by his senior club, West Wall-send, and the West Wall-send Junior Soccer Club. The nomination was supported by the Northern NSW Federation.

John received the judges' vote from a classy field of 26 nominees, with 14-year-old Glendale High School student Linda Mooney filling second place.

Linda, who represents her school at athletics, swimming, volleyball and soccer, received the runnerup award for her performances in State, national and international tumbling.

Highfields Azzurri Soccer Club president John Wallace and Belmont-Swansea United president Sid Smith were among the 11 nominees for the sports administrators' award, which was won by Wangi Bowling club secretary Neville Wyborn.

AUSTRAL RECEIVES ITS CHANCE

ADAMSTOWN Rosebud and Austral United will fight out the grand final of the Tooheys Northern NSW State First Division next Sunday at Macquarie Field.

Adamstown secured its place in the grand final with a 3-1 win over Belmont-Swansea United in the major semi-final on Sunday week.

Belmont-Swansea failed to take advantage of its second chance for a grand final berth when it went down 3-1 to Austral

United in the preliminary final last Sunday at Austral Park.

This will be the first time in three years that neither Belmont-Swansea United nor West Walsend has been a grand finalist.

Adamstown will be without its captain John McQuarrie on Sunday after he exceeded the limit of four yellow cards when he received a caution in the major semi-final.

But Adamstown, with the 1987 Premiership already in its locker, will still start a slight favourite

for grand final honours.

Although Austral fans will probably think otherwise after their team's display on Sunday when Robert Holden, with a hat-trick, was the hero against Belmont-Swansea United.

Belmont-Swansea started well enough and did most of the attacking in the first 15 minutes without setting up any real chances and it was against the run of play when the bounce of the ball eluded the Belmont-Swansea central defence

and Holden forced his way through to score the first of his three goals about four minutes from half time.

Austral's left-side striker Paul Krstevski, who gave the Belswans defence something to think about all afternoon, came close to adding to the score from a right-side cross but his header from close range was pushed over the bar by the Belmont-Swansea keeper David Connor.

In the 65th minute

ILLAWARRA

with
PHIL MURPHY

TIME HOUNDS THE WOLVES

WITH his club back in the West End National League, Wollongong City secretary John Vlietstra says one of his main priorities will be to tackle the fragmentation which holds the game back in

Illawarra.

After the Wolves mauled Manly 6-0 in their last State Bank League match Vlietstra wasn't able to enjoy the celebrations too long.

The players who have done so well this season can look forward to a short

break after the top four series but for Vlietstra and his fellow directors it is going to be hard work until the first ball is kicked on January 24.

"We have a lot to do and not much time to do it in," the energetic secretary said. "It is great to be back but being in the NSL is going to keep us on our toes."

Vlietstra has already had preliminary talks with Illawarra Association president George Naylor about gaining the necessary support from his organisation.

When the Wolves were last in the NSL there were many fixture clashes — mainly from the ISA Premier League match of the day.

Vlietstra said it is wrong that people trying to foster the same game should virtually be at one another's throats.

"Having the district match of the day staged in opposition to an NSL match at Wollongong Showground is ridiculous," he said.

When the Illawarra Steelers went in to the Sydney rugby league competition the first thing they did was make certain there would be no other rugby league played in the area when they are at home.

"It works perfectly for them and they draw very goods crowds because

people who support their code get in to the habit of watching THEIR team," he stated.

Vlietstra would like to see an Illawarra Soccer Council formed with representatives of the Wolves right down to the Business Houses and Church League.

He said each body would have a say and they would support one another.

"My club doesn't want all the cream but have to face the fact the Wolves are in the National League and should get support from all soccer people in this region."

From a personal viewpoint, Vlietstra gives the impression he will relish once again working in the "big time."

Recognised as one of the most level-headed and efficient club secretaries in Australian soccer, he wants the best for Wollongong.

His involvement in the game goes back to the mid-50's when he played on the right wing with Balgownie when they were in the old State League.

These days he lives at Balgownie with his back fence bordering the ground where he has seen his two sons play all their junior soccer.

Ray started out with Fig-tree under sevens, switched to Balgownie when the family moved house and now plays with Sydney Croatia.

Watching Ray, a former Youth Soccerroo and 16-year-old brother Daniel has resulted in the Vlietstra family being heavily involved with senior and junior soccer.

John's wife, Jo, is a strong Wolves' supporter. She works at the ground for home games but always has an ear to the

radio late in the afternoon to hear Sydney Croatia's result.

The family is complete with married daughter, Jennifer, who was mad about soccer as a tomboy a few years back but WAS not allowed to play.

"The wife didn't think it was right that girls play soccer, so Jennifer joined the Wolves' cheer squad when we entered the NSL in 1981," John said.

"These days she plays touch football with her husband and watches the

Wolves when she gets the chance."

The big question in Wollongong these days is will Ray Vlietstra be returning to his old club now that are out of the State League.

"I don't know the answer to that," dad said.

"He has two years to go in an agriculture course at Hawkesbury College and it seems to suit him playing with Croatia."

"I have no doubt coach John Fleming would welcome him with open arms if there was a transfer."

There's gonna' be . . .

A SHOOTOUT!

WHEN they stage a penalty shootout in Illawarra they really give value for money.

When Balgownie and Oak Flats played their First Division semi-final under lights at Towradg Park there was no score after 90 minutes.

Extra time was ordered and still the two teams failed to come up with a goal.

A best of five shoot out then started but they only added to the drama in what turned out to be a two and a half hour "epic."

The penalty kicks were finding the net but the scores were still level after the 10 field players had walked up to the spot.

That left the goalkeepers and it was Oak Flats' keeper Phil Leishnick who decided the result.

The Oak Flats players carried him from the field but all the effort was to no avail.

Just four days later, a weary Oak Flats side turned up at Tarrawanna Oval to take on Mittagong in the final and lost 3-0.

That left Mittagong and Helensburgh to provide the action in the grand final and these two teams are likely to gain promotion to the Premier League.

Helensburgh, one of the strongholds of Illawarra soccer in the 50's and 60's, have enjoyed a revival this season and most of the credit has to go to player-coach Craig Rogers.

He was signed his season after spending most of the career with Sutherland and recruited other ex-State League players to join him.

Two or three more will be on the 'Burgh's books for the start of next season and the town will come alive when they play their first home game.

The club is erecting a grandstand at their ground to provide seating and cover for more than 300 people.

Most Premier League clubs are green with envy about that.



Australian Capital Territory

GRAHAM COOKE presents a complete coverage of the ACT scene.



Concern shows on the face of Juventus defender Mick Tuillawa (second right) as his goalkeeper, Tony Guarino, charged out in search of the ball in recent the Federation Cup final with CCAE. Guarino handled outside the area and CCAE made the score 1-1 from the resulting free kick, going on to lift the Cup, 2-1 in extra time.

CCAЕ DOWNS JUVENTUS

CCAЕ won its first trophy since joining the ACT first division when it upset favourite Juventus 2-1 to take the Federation Cup at Hawker Oval recently.

A goal one minute into the second period of extra time from Peter Robinson settled the much after the scores had been 1-1 at the end of 90 minutes.

Juventus took the lead after 30 minutes with Danny Serena scoring from a well placed cross.

The College hit back two minutes later when Juventus goalkeeper Tony Guarino handled the ball out of his area in an attempt to break up an attack. Joe Minello took the free kick and his shot was deflected into the net off the wall.

And there the game rested until Robinson's 106th minute winner.

FIJI'S ABSENCE AFFECTS ABDUL

THE Fiji Football Association decision not to enter a team in either next year's Olympic tournament or the 1990 World Cup will probably mean the end of Canberra Juventus midfielder Abdul Mannan's international career.

Mana had been called up for the Olympic squad, but the economic crisis in Fiji, brought about by the coup earlier in May, means that the FFA can no longer afford to take part in major international tournaments.

Association president Dr Sanu Khan said entering the World Cup would cost it \$212,000 which it could not afford. Registering now and withdrawing later would risk severe monetary penalties from FIFA.

Fiji had already withdrawn from the elimination rounds for the Olympic Games next year and had asked the international body to waive a \$10,600 fine.

"JANKE HAS POTENTIAL"

INTER Monaro's John-Paul Janke has had his last training session at the Marco Polo Ground for the season and is now on an 11-week work assignment in Sydney, but coach Vic

Fernandez is anxious the striker keeps his links with the club.

Janke has been a bench-warmer for most of the time since signing for the club in early June from ACT second division side International, but Fernandez believes the teenager has tons of potential. "John-Paul came on against Newcastle and played really well — he's a little on the small side at the moment but we hope to build him up.

"He'll be available at the weekends and it is an easy matter for me to get him a club to train with while he is in Sydney.

"I certainly consider him part of Monaro's future."

STEVE DARBY ADJUSTS ACT 18s

CROATIA Deakin's Ned Zelic and Elvis Glavinic have been added to the ACT League's under-18 squad in training for the match against the La Trobe Valley League in October, coach Steve Darby said. Nick Moulis had dropped out because of HSC examinations.

The squad is: David Cortice (Concordia-Canberra), Ben Campbell, Robbie Heidemanns, Willie Stirton, Steve Vanzetti (Canberra City Olympians), Elvis Glavinic, Ned Zelic (Croatia Deakin), Peter John Di Michiel,

Brian Watkins, Alan Rankin, Michael Wiseman, Cameron Tully (Belconnen United), Pepe Lopera (Narrabundah).

The match will be played in Victoria on October 25.

JUNIOR PLANNING

A full-day meeting on September 26 will review the structure of ACT junior soccer and consider where changes should be made, ACTSF secretary Lyndall Jennings said.

The meeting, called by the Junior League Management Committee, will have a full agenda, covering such diverse topics as a change in age groupings, the four term school year, referees, pitches and the juniors' attitude to the Canberra Griffins as the ACT community club.

"The plan is for each club to send three or four delegates, for there to be a full and frank discussion and for decisions to be made on the day," Jennings said.

BIG FOUR CLUBS QUALIFY FOR AMPOL CHAMPIONSHIP

ACT League side CCAE was the big winner of the last round of matches in the ACT first division when it joined Croatia Deakin, Belconnen United and Juventus in the Ampol Cup and Championship competitions, to be played over the next six weeks.

It beat Belconnen 2-1, ensuring it squeezed ahead of Concordia-Canberra and Canberra City Olympians into the coveted fourth place on the ACT first-division ladder.

Concordia, five points ahead of the College at one stage, beat Tuggeranong United 5-1 but coach Jock Coulter admitted afterwards that its effort was too little, too late.

"We'd really lost our chance before this game," he said.

The other contender, Olympians, needed a big win over league champion Croatia Deakin to pip CCAE and found that task beyond them, losing 3-1.

The College showed more urgency in its win over United, which has been assured of a top four place for some weeks. Joe Felizzi put CCAE ahead after 15 minutes but John Walsh hit back eight minutes later, scoring after a solo run from the edge of his own penalty area.

With half-time approaching Tom Alexakis capitalised on some disorganisation in the United defence to score.

Walsh shot over moments later but it was the College who came closest in the second half when Alexakis and Tony Brennan hit the bar in quick succession.

Narrabundah bowed out of the first division pointless after losing its last game 9-0 to Juventus and will be replaced by Weston Creek, whose 8-0 win over Condors clinched the second division title ahead of Canberra City.

Juventus's big win was highlighted by four goals from top scorer Danny Serena, who could be a major cause of trouble for opposition defences in the Ampol series.

WESTFIELD AIDS ACT

Representatives of the ACT schoolgirls and schoolboys soccer squads, and their officials, were at the Westfield Belconnen Shopping Mall to put on a demonstration of skills. The two squads each received \$500, part of a \$5000 Westfield sponsorship for junior soccer in Canberra. The schoolboys and schoolgirls will be travelling to Perth for national championships later in the year. Pictured are the squads that were involved.

—Photos: Vladimir Stojanovic

ACT'S MURRAY FOR TAIWAN TOURNEY

THE Australian women's team has confirmed its entry to the fourth World Women's Invitational Tournament in Taiwan at the end of the year.

The competition, the nearest the women's game comes to a full World Cup, is likely to see 16 teams from Asia, North American and Europe.

AWSA executive director Heather Reid said that while entries had not been finalised, West Germany, the holder, would almost certainly be defending its title.

"Taiwan will field two teams, I would expect the US to send one and there will be at least four other teams from the Asian region," she said.

The squad to train for the tournament would be selected from those who took part in the senior national championships, which meant no players could be considered from absentee state NSW.

"Even so, I think we can field a very competitive side," Reid said.

"It is very important that we do well. Taiwan is considering making a bid for the first Women's World Cup when FIFA finally makes up its mind to go ahead, and this tournament could be a dress rehearsal for it."

This is the third time Australia has entered. It finished eighth in the first competition in 1978, missed in 1981 and was back again for a fifth placing in 1984.

Weston Creek midfielder and forward Julie Murray is likely to be in the touring party with the ACT's Stephanie Quinn as manager and Clive Mackillop as assistant coach. The tournament will run from December 10 to 20.



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WA EMU EXPORT STATE SOCCER LEAGUE



'DEATH' OR SURVIVAL?

BALGA ON A TIGHTROPE

BY DAVID ANDREWS

MONEY is the root of all evil — so they say.

But without it success invariably is out of reach.

So it is for unfashionable Balga in the WA State League competition.

Balga, from the Northern Suburbs of Perth, gained entry into the State league in 1984 when they finished second to another struggling outfit called Forrestfield United.

Like Forrestfield last year, Balga seem headed back to the Second Division, a victim of the financial tyranny that so often rules our lives.

Financial support has always made the difference between survival and disaster in high profile sports.

Balga has lived on the edge of disaster since gaining State League status, having to win their last three matches in 1985 to retain their position by goal average.

They were a little more fortunate last year when they stayed up by two matches in eighth spot.

But once again they have left it till the last match of the season to save themselves.

Unfortunately, this time they must rely on another result in combination with their resources to survive.

Sitting in second last

place, a relegation spot in the 12 club competition, Balga must beat fellow strugglers Cockburn United, while long time State League identity Inglewood Kiev must lose to Gosnells City.

Neither result is out of the question. In fact Balga couldn't have a better opponent in the circumstances.

The real question is can, or will Gosnells City lift themselves to beat Kiev.

If there is a detrimental aspect of the final round to Balga, it is that they have to play away at Cockburn's ground while Kiev are at home.

Saved?

Just before the transfer deadline of June 30, Kiev lashed out money to buy players to save themselves from what looked certain relegation.

I suppose it has worked to some degree.

Before the deadline Kiev had won only one match in 13 games and held last place on the table.

Since then they have won a further four games and drawn one, increasing their paltry eight goals to a total of 22 while tightening the defence, which had conceded 23, restricting the opposition to 12 goals in seven games.

Of their two losses in that time, they lowered

their colours, intriguingly enough, to Balga in a 2-1 defeat at home.

The odds seem to suggest that Balga have flirted with the brink of disaster once too often.

But the goal difference between the two is a measly one goal in Kiev's favour, which means any sort of loss of Kiev and any sort of victory to Balga will be enough to send Kiev tumbling into the Second Division.

Clearly Kiev will heave a heavy collective sigh of relief should they draw with Gosnells, which just happened to be the result when the two clashed in their first meeting of the season.

Olympic In

With Macedonia cementing their premiership of two weeks ago more firmly with a comprehensive 3-1 win over Floreat Athena last week in which Derek Combe scored a hat-trick, the top four battle remains the only interest at the top of the table.

Kingsway Olympic jumped back to fourth spot after their 2-0 win over Cockburn United, taking advantage of Spearwood Dalmatinac's unexpected draw with Gosnells City.

The top four has come to mean very little to clubs and players because of

the absence of true sponsorship.

It will continue out of habit, though most clubs have suggested they will field token line-ups. So much for promotion.

In any case there is still a top four to fight for, and Dalmatinac will attempt, if only for pride's sake, to regain fourth place on the league ladder.

As luck would have it, they clash with Olympic at Olympic's home ground.

A draw is enough for Olympic which means Dalmatinac will go flat out for victory knowing nothing else will get them into the four.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

EMU EXPORT STATE LEAGUE

STATE LEAGUE					
Stirling	21	16	1	4	53 27 49
Perth Azz	21	13	3	5	44 26 42
Floreat	21	10	7	4	51 29 37
K'way Ol	21	11	3	7	29 20 36
Spearwood	21	10	5	6	47 31 35
B'water Int	21	10	3	8	37 36 33
E'F mantle	21	9	3	9	30 31 30
Gosnells C	21	7	7	7	24 25 28
C'burn U	21	6	2	13	21 52 20
Inglewood	21	5	4	12	22 34 19
Balga	21	4	4	13	29 43 16
Osborne Pk	21	3	2	16	20 53 11

SECOND DIVISION					
Sorrento	21	14	5	2	55 24 47
Fremantle	21	14	3	3	48 23 45
N Perth Cro	21	13	5	2	53 25 44
Balcatta	21	13	4	4	40 20 43
Bass' dean	21	9	6	3	26 33
Melville	21	6	8	7	39 42 26
E Perth V	21	7	3	11	33 51 24
Kwinana U	21	6	5	10	29 27 23
Forrestfield	21	6	4	11	35 44 22
Kelmscott	21	6	4	11	33 52 22
Subiaco C	21	4	5	12	20 41 17
Swan Ath	21	1	2	18	14 52 5

TASMANIA

BY WALTER PLESS

BOHEMIAN CUP SEMI-FINALISTS

JUVENTUS-PIONEER will meet Launceston City and Launceston Juventus is at home to White Eagles in the semi-finals of the Bohemian Restaurant Statewide Cup competition in Tasmania.

The quarter-finals were played last weekend and Juventus-Pioneer scored the most impressive victory with a 6-0 away win over Launceston Matric, Sergio Pace hitting a hat-trick in a welcome return to form.

Juventus's other goals came from Romeo Frediani, the club's precocious striker who has made a real name for himself in his debut season, midfielder Steve Kannegiesser and substitute Robbie Mastracola.

Mastracola, who had scored the solitary goal on Wednesday night that took Juventus's Pepsi Youth League side into the Pepsi Top-Four Grand Final, scored in the final mi-

nute of play after coming on as a substitute.

Launceston City progressed to the semi-finals with a commendable 2-1 win over Northern Tasmanian champion Ulverstone.

Chris Bessell had given City a 1-0 lead at the interval, Tim Comagne equalised for the champion on the hour and substitute Dale Turner hit the second half winner.

In Sunday's remaining quarter-final ties, White Eagles easily disposed of Rothman's League side Metro-Claremont to the tune of 6-0 after Andrew Leszczynski, with a penalty, and fullback Neil Morrison had given it a 2-0 lead at the break, while the visiting Launceston Juventus beat Olympia-WPL 2-1.

Richard Leszczynski, the Cadbury State League's leading scorer, Craig Pitt, Brett Harwood and Bobby Rybak completed the scoring for Eagles in the second half.

But one was left wondering about what

might have happened if Dawes had converted the glorious chance the Metro striker Steve Pitchford fashioned for him in the 59th minute.

Dawes had only the goalkeeper to beat but shot tamely and Peter Groenewoud was able to deflect the ball wide for a fruitless corner.

Olympia dominated the opening half against Launceston Juventus but was unable to turn its superiority into goals.

Juventus took control of the second half, however, and Colin Guest headed the Northern side in front from Roger Mies' right-wing cross on the hour.

Juventus should have gone further ahead twice in the next few minutes but Kaitani over-hit a cross with team-mates queueing up in front of goal. Guest struck the post from long-range, the ball then rolling across an unguarded goalmouth.

The visitor did increase its lead in the 73rd minute, however. Colin Guest flicked the ball wide to the

right and Kaitani set off for goal, finishing with a tremendous shot past goalkeeper Martin Burden just seconds before Olympia fullback Chris Hey could intercept him.

Paul Xanthopoulos pulled a goal back for Olympia from the penalty spot two minutes from time but it was too late.

Xanthopoulos headed over goalkeeper Nick Scott, defender Peter Savill stopped the ball on the line, but Scott impeded Xanthopoulos as he tried to round the keeper.

Xanthopoulos took the spot-kick himself and blasted an unstoppable shot past Scott, who had been cautioned by referee John Howlin for dissent prior to the kick being taken.

Details: Bohemian Restaurant Statewide Invitation Cup, Quarterfinals: White Eagles 6 (A Leszczynski, R Leszczynski, N Morrison, Pitt, Rybak, Harwood) Metro-Claremont 0. Olympia-WPL 1 (Xanthopoulos, pen) Launceston Juventus 2 (C Guest, Kaitani), Launceston City 2 (Bessell, Turner) Ulverstone United 1 (Comagne), Launceston Matric 0 Juventus-Pioneer 6 (Pace 3, Frediani, Kannegiesser, Mastracola).



FRANK HUGHES is hustled from behind in a WA Emu Export State League match.

seadean Caledonians 2, Fremantle Benfica 6 Kelmscott 0.

versity 1, Perth City 0 Booragoon Zavicaj 1.

DON'T PRINT FOURTH DIVISION

FOURTH DIVISION
Canning Corinthians 3 Kalamunda 6, Swan I.C. United 0 Albany 2, Bunbury City 1 Ashfield Dynamo 3, Hampton Phoenix 3 Leederville Espanol 2.

THIRD DIVISION
Swan Cracovic 2 Rockingham United 1, Dianella Serbia 1 Queens Park 3, Western Yugal 0 Wanneroo City 1, Morley Windmills 3 Ferndale United 2, Armadale Park 1 Uni-



HIGH-FLYING action from the Tasmanian First Division.

FINE TIMES ON THE COAST

SAYS MIKE JOHNSON

IT has been a good year for Wollongong Soccer with Wolves promoted, Fairy Meadow second placed in second division and Macedonia escaping relegation from State League.

I assumed that Macedonia would win its play off and that is the way it turned out.

At one time earlier in the season it looked like Wollongong would have two teams back in NSW State league second division (Fairy Meadow and Macedonia) and one (Wolves) still languishing in State league 1st division.

Macedonia's last gasp escape act from relegation from the NSW State Bank League was almost as noteworthy of the Wolves' return to National League.

I felt all season that

Wolves had the best players of any team in the State League, plus an astute coach in John Fleming.

Canberra have done very well, especially with the coach and star player Augusto Palacios out of action for much of the second part of the season.

Wollongong Wolves now face the task of strengthening their team for next season.

The team which played in National League in 1986 and was relegated was on a par with the current team.

John Fleming overesti-

mated his team in '86 when they were placed top of the league approaching the half way mark.

He said that his team could go all the way and win the title.

How far off the mark he was was revealed at season end when his team went down.

He and the club will have learned from that experience.

Fleming has played under some good coaches in England in the lower divisions, the best being Graham Taylor, whom he was with at Lincoln till

Taylor moved on to take over Watford, where he did well with a direct style of play which however brought considerable criticism in England.

The criticism came mainly from journalists who were tired of seeing stereotyped long ball play from English club sides, and now in Watford they witnessed the epitome of such play.

Giant central strikers, fast wingers with high work rates who doubled as mid-field players when the team lost the ball, massive no-nonsense central defenders.

The defence pushed up fast to catch opposition offside and to make pressuring of opponents easier.

In possession of the ball the object was to get the ball into the penalty area with as few passes as possible and once there to compete for every ball.

Setplays, exploiting the many tall players in the team, fitness, competitiveness and aggression were the other key elements which caused Watford to be a dangerous opponent.

John Fleming learned well under Taylor and uses a similar pattern of play with Wolves.

Eddie Thomson has had success with teams playing to such a pattern, though not as rigid as the Watford way.

Wollongong Macedonia almost self destructed in the close season by dis-



MIKE JOHNSON is a former English professional Soccer player. He played as full time professional with Doncaster Rovers, Brighton, Fulham and Newcastle United. He is an English Football Association coach. In Australia he has coached top teams — Sutherland, St George BSC, West Adelaide, APIA, Wollongong United (now Wollongong Macedonia) and Fairy Meadow in the NSW State League. His television series *The Basic Skills of Soccer* was shown for the first time in 1980 on ABC, concurrently with another television series of his, *Fitness for Sport*. His book *Fitness for Sport* won a quick acceptance among schools and junior clubs throughout Australia. He has had outstanding success coaching young players, many of whom have gone on to represent Australia at Soccer. He says that everyone of these players, despite their eventual success, was deficient in basic skills because of inadequate coaching in their early years, and that all of them would have been better players if they had developed good basic grounding of skill when they were young.



JOHN FLEMING (Wolves).

involved with Wolves trying to make sure that next year will be worth the finger-biting and pressure of this year.

Not the least of these will be John Fleming.

I fancy he will have already been on the phone to England even before this article goes to print.

It is there that he will seek the professional ex-

perience and the steel which he knows the Wolves will need next year.

It would be good for Soccer to see the Wolves with a bite in '88 - hungry for the success which has not come their way since another English coach, Jim Kelly set the NSW South Coast alight in the 1960's.

MELITA TOUR

NSW State Bank League club Melita Eagles is putting together an October trip to New Zealand.

Details are being finalised for a tour leaving Sydney on Friday October 16 and returning on Monday October 19.

Melita will meet highly rated Napier City Rovers in a match on the Sunday.

Napier is the club with which Greg Brown played.

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WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA in action during John Bingham's reign as coach. Peter Ruskin is at right chasing Canberra's Sixto Gonzales.

JUNIOR STANDARD IMPROVEMENT

BY JOHN DOYLE

THE grand finals of the NSW Youth League competition were played in bright sunshine at Lambert Park.

A large crowd turned up to see the splendid action. Marconi won the Under 13's, APIA the Under 14's, Marconi the Under 15's and Croatia the Under 16's.

The Lambert Park surface was ideal for the games. The decision to hold last week's final on a surface as poor as Knight Park in Yennora was disgraceful. NSL and State League clubs are getting serious at last about junior coaching.

They are hiring professional coaches who are held accountable for improving the performance of their teams.

These clubs demand effectiveness on the part of the coaches. The coach must improve the physical attributes of his players, their fitness, ball control etc and also their mental ability to play under pressure.

Young players learn to create space, to control the ball quickly and to hit available options from their supporting players. For hours of mental and



JOHN DOYLE, ex-Australian International

physical rehearsals they gradually learn how to move on the park.

Skillful soccer cannot be demonstrated on poor grounds. The players become more anxious and the game can become dangerous. Hours spent in practice are wasted by the expedient decision to use an unacceptable surface.

The decision to drop the Under 16 age group is another example of poor long term planning. We need an Under 17 age group to fill the gap between under 16 and under 19's.

But a decision to drop the under 16's is another case of solving one problem by creating another.

What alternatives have they looked at? There are two exceptionally difficult

age groups for adolescents.

The thirteen age group is so impressionable that any fears developed at this age remain part of the self-image and personality.

Any failure at this age can have serious consequences for the maturing player. They should not face the pressures of Youth League.

They should play in games that are fun, scores may be kept but no points should be awarded to make the result more important than the game.

At Under 16, boys are at another critical age in their lives. There are so many hormones rushing around in the blood that the boys are confused about their goals and identities.

They need time at this age to settle down, some of the more talented in this age group are slow maturers, both physically and emotionally. Just look at any year nine or year ten boy at school and you will know what I mean.

Leave the Under 16's, create the Under 17's.

Remember Under 13 boys are still in or have just left primary school, they should be left with representative status and upgraded to Youth League at

Under 14's.

A system such as this will take pressure off the younger boys and allow them to develop a genuine love of the game itself. It will also allow the older players to receive the full benefits of the creation of the Under 17 competition.

Despite these concerns there was very encouraging signs to emerge from the Youth competition.

The 1987 Under 15 age group is the most talented group in junior soccer history.

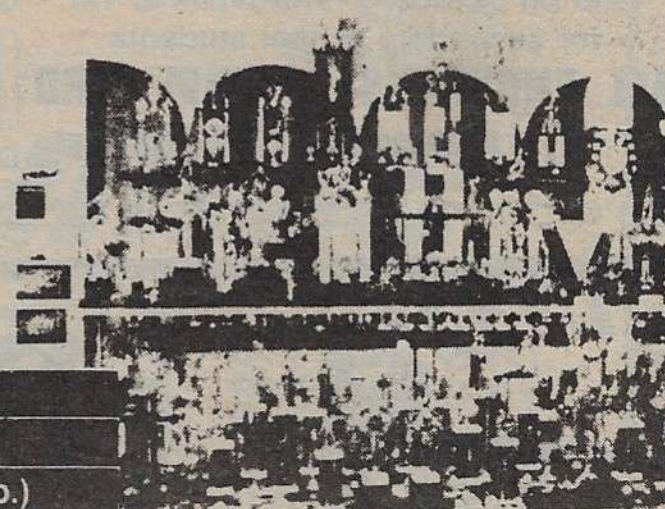
At least three of the boys on show at Under 15 age level on Saturday should have scouts from Real Madrid or other famous clubs talking to their parents. George Soros from Olympic has superstar quality. Olympic also boasts the best poacher of goals in junior soccer in the shape of David Soule and Marconi have in Paul Okon the makings of a complete footballer.

Congratulations to the winning teams, their coaches and managers, and to the organisers of the grand finals. Some serious considerations of the long term needs of the game should see the youth competition further enhancing soccer in Australia.

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AUSTRALIAN INDOOR PAGE



REPLY FROM AISF PRESIDENT

THE Australian Indoor Soccer Federation will not enter any battle with the gentleman from Brazil... the ex-president of FIFUSA (World Indoor Soccer Federation) and now president of FIFA, Mr Havelange.

Our resources and energies will be directed at organising and presenting the best Indoor World Cup in the 55 year history of FIFUSA when the world titles are staged in Australia next October.

We will do this in an atmosphere of pride for Australia, and, as Australians, as part of our nation's 200 year celebrations.

I have stated time and again that the AISF players who will ultimately be selected in the Australian squad in 1988 will not be outdoor players so how can FIFA, the ASF or whoever ban them and if so from what.

FIFA cannot stop indoor players from playing indoor Soccer.

I believe FIFA and its Australian agents, apart from bluffing with their threats, are also being conned, again, by the world body.

Quite frankly FIFA appears to barely know that Australia exists and there are many examples in the past, and no doubt will be in the future, where they are widely held to have treated Australia with total contempt.

Look no further than Australia's "mission impossible" World Cup elimination matches for evidence of FIFA's friendship towards the ASF.

And I can assure you

once the World Indoor Soccer Cup is over Australia's "importance" to FIFA will once again be ZILCH.

I would like to ask Mr Havelange one question.

Other Days

When this gentleman was president of FIFUSA why did he not wish to join the ranks of FIFA?

So why now as president of FIFA does he want to take over his old sport?

FIFA is the biggest sporting organisation in the world and possibly the richest, controlling the world's most popular game, so why does FIFA now need FIFUSA?

It is such a burning issue for Havelange that he (FIFA) has now decided to start their own "sideshow".

On April 27, 1986 he attempted to organise a tournament in Amsterdam — NO-ONE TURNED UP.

This tournament was rescheduled in Hungary in the latter part of 1986.

Participants were Italy (banned from FIFUSA), two Hungarian teams "A" and "B" and the USA — and a so called Brazil.

The Brazil team was a complete sham made up of former Vasco de Gama outdoor players travelling without permission of the Brazilian Confederation of Sport (all sporting teams of Brazil must be sanctioned

THE president of the Australian Indoor Soccer Federation, Joe Brent, replies to ASW's front page story of September 2

by this body).

There are 14.8 million registered Indoor players in Brazil — not one of them was in Hungary.

The rebel players who went to Hungary were banned from playing for three years on their return (from outdoor I presume).

Next aborted Havelange indoor "event" Peru — cancelled.

Then Brasilia — cancelled.

Argentina — cancelled.

As a member of the FIFUSA executive my information is correct and up to date.

I consider that those representing FIFA in Austria are out of touch with those international acts and events.

No Bearing

Finally let me make it very clear that Australia has laws that guarantee the rights of individuals.

Within law this simply means that FIFA's dictums have NO bearing on Australians.

All direct threats to players in Australia made recently have been made behind the toilets at the training parks but never in writing and never officially.

Rather than idle threats, I challenge anyone to ban any indoor player in writing because of their involvement in Indoor Soccer — our lawyers need the business.

The Australian Indoor Soccer Federation's sole purpose for existing is to develop, promote and control Indoor Soccer for the health, well-being and enjoyment of any Australian who may enjoy the game.

Ideally the two codes are complimentary and within a generation Indoor will assist outdoor players improve their skills immensely which will hopefully see Australia represented at FIFA World Cups on a more regular basis.

We should be encouraged and supported in our efforts, not knocked with baseless threats.

May I suggest that the ASF stands up to Mr Havelange who wouldn't dare try this trick in any other country as he has no chance of succeeding.

The ASF should support Australians, be Australian as there should be no room for more politics.

THE CAPITAL CONNECTION

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THE 1987 National Indoor Soccer League season kicked off last Friday with the ACT teams, Canberra Rockets and Canberra Strikers, mounting the challenge from the national capital.

Rockets' manager Trevor Vizovitis has announced all but one member of the squad which he expects will take the club through the season — and it includes two major signings, Inter Monaro outdoor players Marko Perinovic and Angelo Titilas.

Also in the line-up is a new goalkeeper, Andrew Moebus, to provide competition for last season's first-class regular, Dennis Maricic, and Dino De Angelis, a tough-tackling defender with Juventus in outdoor competition.

The experienced Stan Dukic has signed again, and the balance of the squad is made up of Emile Maricic, Dragon Perkovic, Marko Vrdic, George Kyrgios and Bernie Lustica.

Vizovitis said former NSL player Tony Lemezi-na would sign as soon as he returned from his European holiday, "but I wouldn't expect him on court for two or three weeks yet — he has a lot of training to catch up on".

That would leave one vacancy in the squad. "We are talking to a player at the moment, and I

know the Strikers are also talking to him," Vizovitis said.

"If he can't make up his mind in the next few days we will have to look elsewhere."

Asked if he expected problems with his players still involved in outdoor Soccer over the next few weeks, he said everyone in the squad understood the commitment expected.

"They won't be getting paid. It is ridiculous to have player payments at this early stage in Indoor Soccer's development, but for the better players there is the very real chance that they could go on and represent their country — and they would wait forever for that in outdoor Soccer."

"I have no quarrel with outdoor Soccer but I would expect my players to make themselves available for matches unless there is a direct clash of times."

Strikers' manager Keith Rundle has admitted that the nine players the club has available for the weekend represent only about two thirds of its projected squad.

He named Ian Murray, Chris Tanzey, Billy Stewart, Oscar Langone, Alan Crawford and Terry Hayes from last season's regulars with the addition of ACT outdoor league players John Tucker (ANU), Paul Turner (CCAE) and Ian Shaw (Belconnen United).

The club has lost Ian Wotherspoon to Brisbane Bombers and goalkeeper Tony Musumeci to the Enduro Spartans. Billy Willox, the 'engine room' of the team last season, still has outdoor commitments with the Canberra Griffins and Baz Giampaolo has not decided whether to resign.

Rundle said the City Club would be a corporate rather than a major sponsor this year and as a result the Strikers had dropped 'City' from its title.

"We are still looking for a major sponsor, and if we get one our name can be modified accordingly."

Lack of sponsors is a problem the Strikers share with the Rockets. After a winter of effort which has yielded only a handful of minor backers, Vizovitis said the prospect of national exposure on television has had little effect on the organisations he had approached.

"Sponsorship must be the hardest earned money in Australia today," he added.

INDOOR SHORTS

THE ACT indoor movement now has its own radio show on 2SSSFM at 8.15-8.45 every Saturday morning.

Run by Charlie King and Allan Parker the programme features results, news, interviews on the Canberra Scene.

THE ACT has experienced a 50% increase in junior team registrations for the coming season. 112 teams in the juniors and 80 in the seniors.

A key player in Lotto All Stars bid for the James Hardie NISL title is former Apia star Rod Skellern.

THE Cootamundra promotional weekend is on this coming Friday to Sunday with all age, under 16 and under 13 teams participating from areas such as Oak Flats, Talbingo, Sydney (Lotto Allstars) Canberra and the locals.

Joe Grima (phone 02 610 5994 home) advises there is still time for womens senior teams to register for the NSW championships set to kick off in three weeks time.

Robyn Lembryk, wife of Sydney Tornadoes and Australian star John, is expecting her first child in November.

There are already 64 registered indoor players in the small country town of Talbingo.

Hard working committee comprises of Marko Mihail, David Oaks, Kurt Rolof and John Locker.

The Talbingo girls and boys teams will take part in the promotional visit to Cootamundra this weekend.

Baz Giampaolo has signed with the Canberra Rockets for the 1987 season. Baz was a key member with Canberra City Strikers national runners up team in last year James Hardie NISL.

Former 1974 World Cup Soccerroo goalkeeper Allan Maher is involved in more ways than one with the Australian Indoor movement.

Allan is manager of the Fairfield Leisure Centre, scene of the Sydney based James Hardie NISL matches.

Canberra City Strikers have a James Hardie NISL training squad of 30 players. The thinking behind the large squad is to promote and develop its own players in the near future as there are many youngsters in the training squad in the 16-17 years age bracket.

New signings for the Strikers are Tim Dole, Joe Rimmer, Rod Vickers, Ivan Jadric.

The first level one coaching course under national director of coaching Nick Nicolopoulos, will be held during the last week of October at the AIS, Canberra. Further courses are planned for Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Brisbane in the near future. Enquiries on all these level one courses to head office... 02 771 1677.

NEWCASTLE INDOOR REGISTRATIONS

Are now taking place for the various leagues which kick off on October 1

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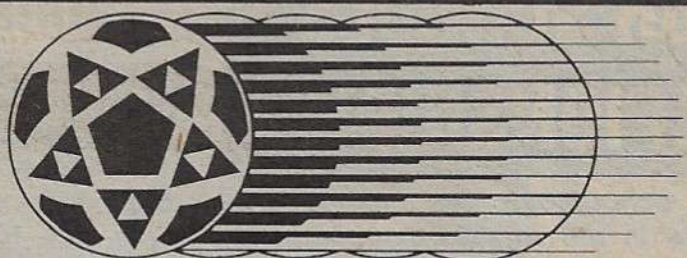
Also the Newcastle Schoolboys and Schoolgirls Championships will be held on October 31st-November 1st for secondary school students

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BUFFALO SPORTS





The James Hardie National Indoor Soccer League

Frank Coletta compiles the JHNISL match reports

LOTTO ALLSTARS 5 (Gilligan 4 White) **CANBERRA ROCKETS 2** (Maracic 2) at Fairfield Leisure Centre.

The fate of the Rockets was sealed after just 32 seconds when Scott Gilligan pounced on a defensive error by Emil Maracic and drove the ball past Dennis Maracic.

From there on the Rockets were going to need a remarkable comeback but Gilligan thwarted that likelihood when he beat three defenders to grab his second in the twelfth minute.

Canberra's Marko Perinovic (the tall one — they've got two of them) made a quick exit from the match when he was sent off after being on the field for just 40 seconds as a substitution, after clashing with Phil Dolton.

The pace of the game lulled somewhat and it

fourth just before the final hooter.

LOTTO: Thurlow, Skeltern, Dolton, Gilligan, Stromquist. Subs: Vince and Ross.

ROCKETS: D.Maracic, Perkovic, E.Maracic, Titilas. Subs: M.Perinovic, M.Perinovic and Gagetti.

BUFFALO Player of year Points: 2 Bruce Thurlow (LA) 2 Joe Gagetti (CR) 2 Scott Gilligan (LA).

SYDNEY TOYOTA TORNADOES 8 (Erjan Osman 2, Knight 2, Erkin Osman, Moon, Cassar and Ormord).

CANBERRA ROCKETS 4 (Gagetti 2, Perkovic, Perinovic).

After their torrid battle with the Strikers the previous night, the Tornados began the clash with Canberra Rockets rather tentatively and had to soak up

las, Perkovic. Subs: E.Maracic, Vrkic, Perinovic and Moebus.

BUFFALO Points: 2 Robble Stuart (ST) 2 Craig Carlisle 1 Joe Gagetti (CR) 1 Erjan Osman (ST).

SYDNEY TOYOTA TORNADOES 5 (Jeffery 2, Knight 2 and Ormord).

CANBERRA STRIKERS 3 (Kanaridis 2 and Jadric).

at Fairfield.

Despite a serious lapse of concentration in the second half the Tornados were able to hold off the Strikers in a match full of controversy and consternation.

Both sides were at it from the kick-off following some 'verbal volleyball' prior to this year's competition.

It was Erjan Osman inspiring the reigning champions and it was he that broke clear in the eighth minute to set Glen Jeffery up for his first goal in his debut for the Tornados.

Captain-coach Steve Knight made it 2-0 at the quarter hour and when Jeffery grabbed his second 30 seconds from half-time it seemed all the taunts had counted for nothing. But the Strikers did not succumb so easily and five minutes after the interval Ivan Jadric pulled a goal back, his first this year and just 30 seconds on Jim Kanaridis had his side just a goal in arrears. By this time though the individual battles were raging leading to Ian Murray (Strikers) and John Lembryk (Tornados) exchanging pleasantries and being sent-off in quick succession.

The Strikers had bustled their way back into the game with Billy Stewart leading the way and levelled six minutes from full-time through Kanaridis again. The momentum continued and it was left to Craig Carlisle, tottering on four personal fouls, to pull off a fine save from Kanaridis soon after.

The pressure started to tell with Dragan Perkovic and Marko Perinovic bringing the score to 4-3 before Knight and Gagetti again both got on the scoresheet. With the score at 6-4 the game was there for the taking but the steadying influence of Robbie Stuart and Craig Carlisle at the back kept the Tornados in command. Anthony Cassar and Knight again stabbed goals to keep the Tornados' unbeaten run intact.

Tornados: Carlisle, Erjan Osman, Stuart, Ormord, Moon. Subs: Knight, Erkin Osman, Jeffery, Cassar and Beck.

Rockets: D.Maracic, Gagetti, Perinovic, Titi-

But when it matters a champion team can step up the pace and with three minutes left Trevor Ormord blasted a direct free-kick beyond Terry Hayes and his goal was followed by Knight's second.

Tornados: Carlisle, Knight, Erjan Osman, Jeffery, Ormord. Subs: Lembryk and Cassar. **Strikers:** Hayes, Stewart, Crawford, Jadric, Murray. Subs: Kanaridis.

coach Nick Nicolopoulos, the Canecutters have had him tutoring for a week, the side is still struggling.

As early as the first minute Gabriel Montes struck and in fact three goals came inside the first three minutes. Neil Trebbin halted the charge for a time to make it 1-3 in the eighth and just as it seemed the Canecutters were settling into a groove, Max Bentocelli bobbed up for his first of two. From then on it was a matter of



JIM KANARIDIS (far right) is pressured by the Tornados' Glen Jeffery. Erjan Osman and Trevor Ormord.

BUFFALO Player of the Year Points: 2 Erjan Osman (ST) 2 Billy Stewart (CS) 1 Trevor Ormord (ST) 1 Steve Knight (ST).

ILLAWARRA STINGERS 10 (Montes 6, Sola 2 and Bentocelli 2).

BUNDABERG CANECUTTERS 1 (Trebbin).

at Bundaberg Indoor Centre.

Bundaberg have a lot of work to do if they are to avoid becoming the easybeats of the JHNISL this season.

Once again their defence fell in a miserable heap, this time at the hands of the Illawarra Stingers who became the third consecutive team to knock up ten or more goals against them. Despite the expertise of national

shutting the gate — the horse had well and truly bolted... In Bundaberg's defence is the fact that they like others are caught up in the eligibility wrangle. Up to eight players are on their books but cannot start until the problems with the outdoor game are sorted out, which for Bundaberg's sake, will happen sooner than later.

Stingers: Desauza, Cabanas, Sola, Bentocelli, Montes. Subs: Coelho and Cloccl. **Canecutters:** Burt, Wilkinson, Trebbin, Giovannoni, Selesina. Subs: Hall, Finger and Walk.

BUFFALO Points: 3 Gabriel Montes (IS) 2 Mirko Sola (IS) 1 Max Bentocelli (IS).



JOHN WHITE (black strip) is cornered by two Canberra Rockets players. Photo — Michael Sara.

PARRAMATTA EN-DURO SPARTANS 9 (Spirovski 4, Speranza 2, Dameski 2 and Akkary).

GEELONG CC's CATS 4 (Nogger 2, Ullar and E.Radojevic).

Geelong CC's Cats came crashing back down to earth when Parramatta's Enduro Spartans ran up a 9-4 victory at Corio.

BUFFALO Points: 3 Sasha Spirovski (PS) 1 Carlos Akkary (PS) 1 Frank Speranza (PS) 1 Peter Dameski (PS).

PARRAMATTA EN-DURO SPARTANS 5 (Spirovski 2, Akkary 2 and Silva).

THOMASTOWN TWISTIES CRUSHERS 4 (Metaxas 2, Papalazaroli and Futto).

LOTTO ALLSTARS 2 (Gilligan and White).

CANBERRA STRIKERS 2 (Murray and Stewart).

at Fairfield.

BUFFALO Points: 2 Scott Gilligan (LA) 2 Billy Stewart (CS) 1 John White (LA) 1 Ivan Jadric (CS).

BRISBANE BOMBERS 5 (Wotherspoon 2, Barnard, Melville and Catacovic).

ILLAWARRA STINGERS 3 (Coelho 2 and Sola).

At the break it was 1-1 and the Bombers still had Ian Wotherspoon, Colin Simpson and Advan Catacovic on the bench! They came off it and helped steer the side home with a grandstand finish.

BUFFALO Points: 3 Richie Barnard (BB) 2 Ian Wotherspoon (BB) 1 Joe Coelho (IS).

GRIDLINE EAGLES 11 (Filipovic 4, Nastovski 3, Blazic 2 and Antic 2).

PERTH COUGARS 8 (Z. Antanasovskis 3, Katinski 2, B. Antanasovskis, Brown and Roki) at Perry Lakes.

BUFFALO Points: 3 Radovan Filipovic (GE) 2 Rick Loreto (PC) 1 Zoran Blazic (GE).

The James Hardie Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GRIDLINE Eagles	6	5	1	0	40	26	11
PARRAMATTA Spartans	6	5	0	1	42	24	10
SYDNEY Tornados	5	5	0	0	27	13	10
PERTH Cougars	4	2	1	1	32	19	5
ILLAWARRA Stingers	5	2	0	3	28	27	4
LOTTO Allstars	4	1	2	1	12	12	4
CANBERRA Rockets	5	2	0	3	27	30	4
BRISBANE Bombers	3	1	0	2	12	16	2
THOMASTOWN Twisties	4	1	0	3	14	19	2
CANBERRA Strikers	5	0	1	4	21	25	1
GEELONG CC's Cats	4	0	1	3	15	25	1
BUNDABERG C'cutters	3	0	0	3	4	36	0

Thomastown Twisties v Geelong CC's Postponed till October 18

Gridline Eagles 11 Perth Cougars 8
Parramatta Spartans 5 Thomastown Twisties 4
Lotto Allstars 5 Canberra Rockets 2
Sydney Tornados 5 Canberra Strikers 3
Illawarra Stingers 10 Bundaberg C'Cutters 1
Parramatta Spartans 9 Geelong CC's 4
Lotto Allstars 2 Canberra Strikers 2
Sydney Tornados 8 Canberra Rockets 4
Brisbane Bombers 5 Illawarra Stingers 3

BUFFALO TopScorers

The Sharpshooters

13 Carlos Akkary (Spartans)
13 Radovan Filipovic (Eagles)
12 Zoran Blazic (Eagles)
9 Emil Maracic (Rockets)
9 Steve Knight (Tornados)
9 Vince Nastovski (Eagles)
8 Robbie Nogger (CC's)
8 Joe Coelho (Stingers)
8 Michael Roki (Cougars)

BUFFALO PLAYER OF THE YEAR

12 — Radovan Filipovic (Eagles)
7 — Sasha Spirovski (Spartans)
6 — Dragan Perkovic (Rockets)
5 — Bruce Thurlow (Allstars), Dino Speziale (Twisties), Joe Coelho (Stingers), Billy Stewart (Strikers).

NEXT WEEKS GAMES: Saturday 19th September

Perth v Strikers at Perry Lakes
Geelong v Rockets at Corio Leisuretime Centre
Gridline v Brisbane at Fairfield Leisure Centre
Spartans v Bundaberg at Fairfield
Illawarra v Tornados at Wollongong Uni

Sunday 20th September

Crushers v Rockets at Thomastown Recreation
Gridline v Bundaberg at Fairfield Leisure
Spartans v Brisbane at Fairfield Leisure



SNACK FOODS

Twisties



Chickadees

*Registered trade mark

SOCCERWORDS N° 1 ANSWER

1	A	U	S	T	R	A	L	I	A	B	O	N	Y	I
2	N	D	I	R	E	C	T	R	I	M	B	O	L	I
3	T	A	L	Y	A	N	K	O	S	O	P	E	R	A
4	S	I	C	R	O	A	T	I	A	D	E	L	A	I
5	D	E	C	I	T	Y	E	L	L	O	W	A	T	S
6	O	N	A	P	O	L	I	A	N	W	A	L	L	A
7	C	E	G	A	N	E	W	C	A	S	T	L	E	U
8	E	R	T	O	N	O	R	T	H	A	M	A	R	C
9	O	N	I	L	L	A	W	A	R	R	A	R	N	O
10	L	O	E	M	A	R	I	G	N	Y	O	U	N	G
11	E	O	R	G	E	C	R	O	S	S	C	O	T	T
12	O	L	L	E	R	E	N	S	H	A	W	A	D	E

We regret that Soccerwords Answer No 1 was omitted from last week's issue.

JIMMY MEERBANI

(Melita Eagles NSW)
Full name: Jimmy Meerbani
Birthplace and birthdate: Lebanon, 20/3/63
What year emigrated: 1976
Previous Clubs: Bankstown, Croatia, Hobart.

Nickname: Flash.
Height & weight: 180cm, 70kg
Marital status: Single
Job or trade: Self employed
Home: Greenacre
Favourite current player overseas: Maradona
Favourite current player locally: Billy Griffiths
Favourite all time great: Pele

A rising star: Chris Ortiz
Boyhood hero: Pele
Team you supported when young: Liverpool
Favourite other sports: Swimming, tennis, squash
Most Memorable Match: Winning the Championship 1986.

Biggest disappointment: Not winning the Grand Final 1986.
Club honours: State League winners & Grand finalist 1986.
Hobbies: Fishing, hunting.
Favourite Showbusiness people and shows: Cosby Show, World Soccer.

World Around Us, Solid Gold.
Favourite Music and Performers: Dianna Ross, Kenny Rogers, Lionel Richie.
Biggest influence on career: So far, Dennis Hoggart.
Ambitions for 1987: Stay free of injuries and win State League.
Long term ambitions: To be healthy, happy and rich.
Favourite other team: Flamingo, Brazil.



TOP SCORERS

MARKO Perinovic, the robust Inter Monaro forward, was in good touch yet again last Saturday to score his 15th goal of the season.

If the number of performances are counted then Perinovic with 15 goals from 16 games must be the player with the best strike rate in the League.

The injury which prevented Perinovic from playing in the first nine outings certainly prevented this 23 year old from being the top striker in 1987.

He is still hopeful of playing against Inter Monaro in search of yet another goal or two which will put him in the clear second spot on the list of top NSW State Bank League sharpshooters.

Will he move from Canberra if the right offer comes along? "Certainly, but it will have to be a good offer," said the young man at Cromer Park last Saturday.

"I am getting married soon and I am happy playing football in Canberra, but playing NSL would be a challenge."

LIST OF TOP STRIKERS:
19 Alan Reis (Canberra), 16 Randall Easthorpe (Wongong City), 15 Marko Perinovic (Inter Monaro), Roberto Giraldo (Wongong City), 11 David Batten (Uruguay), Greg Brown (Melita Eagles).

ACT FOR SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE ACT open schoolboys and schoolgirls squads to compete in the Australian championships from September 27 to October 2 in Perth are:

Schoolboys: Mark Arthur (Narrabundah College and Inter Monaro), Anthony Giannasea (Hawker College and Canberra Griffins), John Gibson (Dickson College and AIS), Craig Hoogendoorn (Erindale College and AIS), Steve Horvat (Lake Ginninderra College and AIS), Doug Marcina (Lake Ginninderra College and AIS), Dennis Maricic (Phillip College and Inter Monaro), Greg Mills (Dickson College and AIS), Dean Nicolaou (Dickson College and AIS), Toplica Popovich (Dickson College and Canberra Griffins), Mark Reis (Copland College and Canberra Griffins), Alan Riddell (Dickson College and AIS), Luka Ujdur (Dickson College and Croatia Deakin), Brian Watkins (Copland College and Belconnen United), Craig Weldon (Erindale College nad Canberra Griffins), Paul Welch (Lake Ginninderra College and AIS).

Schoolgirls: Sara King (Weston Creek High), Samantha Alston (Dickson College), Sophia Mathas (Daramalan College), Susannah McMurtrie (Copland College), Helen Kirkup, Alexandra Foken (Campbell High), Trilby Ripon (Melrose High), Sasha Wainwright (Telopia Park High), Nuria Prego (Erindale College), Angle Bean (Watson High), Lisa Banford, Sally Sanigar, Vanh Manthongay (Chisholm High), Cathy Butler (Hawker College), Kimberley Williams (Holder High), Karolina Ivanesevic (Kambah High). Coach: Cass Hampton (Campbell High). Manager: Steve Gillespie (Stirling College).

The ACT Soccer Federation has given \$500 each to the schoolboys and girls teams travelling to Perth for their national championships.

The money is part of Westfield Belconnen Mall's sponsorship of junior soccer in the Territory and the presentation was made at the mall last week by ACTSF vice-president Peter Collins to the president of the ACT Secondary Schools Association, Ray Gunn.

Players from both squads were present and give a skills demonstration with the help of some local youngsters.

SPECTATOR'S CODE:

1. Remember that students play organised sport for their own enjoyment. They are not there to entertain you, and they are NOT miniature professional athletes.
2. Respect the officials' decisions.
3. Be on your best behaviour. Do not indulge in physical or verbal abuse of players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
4. Applaud good play by your own team and the opposing team.
5. Show respect for your opponents. Without them there would be no game.
6. Never ridicule a player for making a mistake or losing a competition.
7. Condemn the use of violence in all forms.
8. Encourage players always to play according to the rules.

ACT'S MAJURA RUNNERS-UP

FOR Majura under 15 soccer team, the season has just finished with well deserved success, being runners-up in the ACT Junior competition.

This success is even greater when it is taken into consideration that Majura Soccer Club is only a little club and has no support from the senior club.

This makes it hard for players against the giant clubs such as Tuggeranong, Belconnen, Croatia, Belwest and Belconnen.

From 14 games the team had 11 wins, one draw and two losses. They scored 61 goals and allowed in 13, averaging more than five goals a game for and less than one against.

Currently four players are in the ACT U-15 squad: Joe Molina, John Dalton, Pat Cosentini and Claudio Palombi.

—Bob Dejanovic, Coach.



Standing L to R: Coach Bob Dejanovic, Jason Parkes, Joe Molina, Vic Bradaric, Tung Ha, Tung Tang, Chris Tang and Manager C King. Front: Claudio Palombi, Kelvin Hawke, Pat Cosentini, Tim Nicholls, Allan King, John Dalton and Alejandro Gaete.

TORNADOES STRIKE BACK!

BY FRANK COLETTA

THE Sydney Toyota Tornados James Hardie Indoor National side has had the last laugh over the Canberra Strikers who manager Ben Pinchas says, had a lot to say earlier in the year about the reigning champions being a spent force.

"Who is the spent force now?" crowed Pinchas after his side had beaten the visiting Strikers 5-3 last Saturday at the Fairfield Leisure Centre.

"They had plenty to say before the match," said Pinchas. "But who is laughing now? We are a much better outfit. Twice national champions and

currently running equal second to Gridline Eagles who have played a game more, what more evidence of a top team do you need?"

It was a wild and woolly affair, indicative of the kind of action seen in the JHNISL. Two players were sent off, Canberra's Ian Murray and Sydney's John Lembrink and more than once officials and players exchanged heated words during the night, on and off the field.

At the end though the Tornados had the last laugh and the Strikers who had build the clash into a real no-holds-barred grudge match were left looking somewhat like fallen heroes...

The Clash Continues...

THE conflicting interests of the respective indoor and outdoor codes in Australia are coming to a head it would seem.

Indoor official Dennis Murray is today in Queensland trying to sort out the problems involving the Bundaberg Canecutters.

It is believed the fledgling JHNISL side was missing up to eight players on the weekend, caught up in the rigmarole of the two sports.

Also embroiled in a similar situation is Canberra Rockets star Stan Dukic, who has sought legal advice from his solicitor after being told earlier in the year by Croatia Deakin (his outdoor club) that they

did not want him playing the indoor game. But it seems that all Dukic's efforts to sort the problem out have fallen on deaf ears. Emil Maracic, another Rockets player was involved in a similar controversy, but he quickly cured that ill — he left his outdoor club!

Meantime the leaders of Australia's indoor competition — the Gridline Eagles are the only side still without a major sponsor. Leading a national competition with no backing? Some sort of effort. Surely there is some company or the like interested in getting involved with a successful and certainly marketable product ... isn't there?

—FRANK COLETTA



CARLOS AKKARY in action for the Spartans in the JHNISL at the weekend against Thomastown. Pic by Carmelo Bazzano.

NATIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE SYDNEY TOYOTA TORNADOES & LOTTO ALLSTARS

Saturday 25th of September
Curtain Raiser — Print Media v Electronic Media
Main Game — SYDNEY TORNADOES v LOTTO ALLSTARS

ALL GAMES WILL BE PLAYED AS DOUBLE HEADERS AT FAIRFIELD LEISURE CENTRE VINE ST, FAIRFIELD

TICKETS: ADULTS \$5 PER GAME
CHILD/PENS \$2 PER GAME
SEASON TICKETS ADULT \$50
CHILD/PENS \$20

FOR TICKETS PH: BEN PINCHAS 214 6666 OR SCOTT GILLIGAN 771 1677

ST GEORGE YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS 1988

U13 to U17s
at St George Stadium,
Bestic St, Rockdale

★ Tues October 13 U13, U14 6pm to 8pm
★ Thursday October 15 U15, U17 6pm to 8pm
Enquiries to Steve Macarthur 533 1459

Applications for QUALIFIED COACHES for U11 to U17 teams to The Secretary, PO Box 347 Hurstville 2220, closing September 25.



The NSW Amateur Federation

Supporting 130,000 players in the State

ADRIATIC YOUTH LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

U13's: Marconi vs Olympic 3-0

MARCONI ran out comfortable winners over Sydney Olympic 3-0.

Andres Monge opened the scoring in only the fifth minute when he latched onto a low cross from Jeff Difranco.

Frank Messina was the player most responsible for the goal as he had brilliantly drawn two players before slipping the ball through for Difranco.

Marconi went further ahead only 12 minutes later when a stinging shot from Difranco was parried by the keeper into the path of Darren Ioco who calmly headed home.

The Fairfields had a third goal disallowed in the 25th minute and by this stage looked to be in complete control.

Olympic were reduced to 10 men shortly after half time due to a send off.

However, they continued to commit players forward in an attempt to get back in the match. This gave Marconi a major advantage by counter attacking, and they scored their third when Angelo Dimiao drew both defenders before slipping a superb ball to Jeff Difranco, who was supporting in the centre and made no mistake with his 15 metre shot.

NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE anticipated dates for the NSW State Championships included in the issue of September 9 were incorrect, as the normal timing of the matches has had to be changed.

Coming up shortly — on Saturday September 26/Monday September 28 are:

- UNDER 11 at Griffith
- UNDER 12 at Ulladulla

The UNDER 13 series will be played at Parkes, from Friday October 9/Sunday October 11.

For the UNDER 14, 15 and 16 grades, Valentine Park Parklea will be used, with games also covering Friday October 9/Sunday October 11.

Competition secretary Bill Cullinan points out that the under 14/16 grades could not be set down for October 3/5.

This is because under 13 to 15 years players are involved in the National titles from September 26/October 2.

The youngsters would not be able to get a break if they were required to move immediately from the nationals to the NSW titles.

National titles in the various grades will be played as follows: U15, Perth WA. U14: Devonport Tas. U13: Merimbula NSW.

After the match needless to say the Marconi players were ecstatic and suggested that the win was due to top quality coaching and heaps of determination.

Andres Monge was awarded the match ball as player of the match. Andres controlled the game well in the midfield and showed plenty of vision.

Marconi Captain Tony Battisti accepted the Championship trophy from John Greaves, representing Adriatic Life Insurance.

U14's APIA v Southern Districts 3-1

APIA became the only minor premiership winning team to take out the Grand Final when they crushed Southern Districts 3-1.

With a little bit of luck running in APIA's favour they could well have won by five or six goals.

It only took them 90 seconds to find the back of the net however the goal was disallowed.

The Southern Districts keeper battled to keep his side in the match and pulled off a superb diving save to deny a Roman Nikolic header.

APIA were prepared to shoot from anywhere and a long range shot from Richard Prior was only inches wide.

Southern Districts defence was caught square in the 25th minute and Nikolic was quick to latch onto the through ball and made no mistake with his shot.

Adam Whan was unlucky when his headed shot just before the break hit the top of the crossbar.

APIA consolidated their lead early in the second half when Nikolic scored his second.

However Southern Districts were beginning to show signs of a possible comeback and were rewarded in the 44th minute when Maurice Reys beat two players and then the keeper from an acute angle.

However the rhythm of previous weeks was missing and APIA never looked seriously worried.

APIA had a second goal disallowed for offside after 54 minutes and from the resulting free kick received the ball straight back through Whan who played through for Aldo Martinich who made no mistake.

Roman Nikolic was awarded the match ball as man of the match for his forcefully devastating display up front.

U15's: Olympic v Marconi 0-1

AFTER a tentative opening half with very few opportunities to either team, Marconi

NSW METROPOLITAN REPS

U12	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bankstown	12	10	1	1	24	9	21
Granville	12	9	0	3	24	8	18
Illawarra	11	7	3	1	21	9	17
Nepean	12	6	3	3	23	14	15
Gladesville	12	5	4	3	20	14	14
Blacktown	12	6	3	3	15	11	15
Sutherland	12	5	3	4	14	12	13
St George	12	5	2	5	25	28	12
Sth Districts	10	4	2	4	9	8	10
Canterbury	11	3	3	5	15	19	9
Macarthur	12	3	1	8	16	24	7
Central Coast	12	1	4	7	10	25	6
Sthn & Eastern	12	2	0	10	12	29	4
Manly Warringah	12	0	3	9	4	22	3

U11

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St George	12	9	2	1	34	6	20
Sth Districts	11	9	0	2	29	4	20
Granville	12	9	0	3	24	13	18
Sutherland	12	7	3	2	19	11	17
Bankstown	12	7	1	4	26	18	15
Macarthur	12	6	2	4	20	15	14
Gladesville	12	5	2	5	12	15	12
Central Coast	12	4	4	4	13	18	12
Sthn & Eastern	12	6	2	4	17	21	14
Nepean	12	2	5	5	11	26	9
Canterbury	11	2	3	6	8	26	7
Blacktown	12	2	2	8	6	46	6

began to get the upper hand in the second.

Christian Vieri became a hero when he superbly lobbed the ball over the keeper's head from some 35 metres, to give his team its third successive Metropolitan championship trophy.

The first opportunity fell for Marconi as Glenn Johnson broke through, however Olympic keeper Jason Vickery was quickly off his line to close the shooting angle.

Olympic's best opportunity came when a George Sorras cross ricocheted off the keeper John Bowles onto midfielder Robert Stanton. However it finished marginally wide.

Vickery pulled off an amazing save right on half time when a free kick was curled in behind the defence for Johnson to head on.

The Vieri goal was one of the few high points in the match although Marconi keeper Bowles did well to keep Olympic scoreless in the dying seconds by clearing off the line.

Paul Okon accepted the championship trophy from Ian Holmes, Executive Director of the NSW Soccer Federation.

The man of the match award went to Bowles who only recently regained the number 1 jumper.

U16s: Blacktown City v Sydney Croatia 1-2

THE Croatian defence provided the backdrop for a tremendous win over Blacktown City in the U16 Grand Final.

The win means that over the period of three weeks Croatia managed to defeat all of the top three teams from Division 1.

Blacktown City appeared to have lost their sharpness and determination which had been so obvious the previous week.

Croatia opened the scoring in the 22nd minute when Eddie Alilovic struck from 40 metres lobbing the ball over the keeper's head. He seemed to lose the ball in the sun.

Steve Frketic put Croatia further ahead by leaping high to head home a Jerry Matosin corner.

The game saw Blacktown City begin by working hard in attack only to have most of their moves broken down by the well organised defence.

It should also be said that Croatia had fewer opportunities than Blacktown, however they made

much better use of them.

Blacktown managed a consolation goal with eight minutes remaining when a cross to the far post by Ronny Heaps was headed into the net by Nathan Newham.

Croatia Captain Blago Milincivic accepted the trophy from ASF Vice President Harrie Denning, as well as being named man of the match.

RUSHY'S CORNER

AND so ends the Youth League for yet another season, with all clubs looking to sign up the best coaches they can and coaches chasing players in order to have strong teams for the future.

Congratulations to all four winning teams, Marconi U13s who were out of the running with only four seconds remaining in their quarter final before scoring and eventually winning in extra time.

To APIA 14s who have now won the Tri-State tournament, the minor premiership, grand final and also been instrumental in helping the club win the Club championship.

To Marconi 15s and Klaus Okon who lost a host of excellent players and still managed to win their third Metropolitan championship trophy.

And of course to Sydney Croatia who had to defeat all three of the top placed division 1 teams in order to win the championship.

oOo

Bill Cullinan and Frank Broughton have asked me to thank on their behalf the Youth League sponsors, Adriatic Life Insurance, Mitre for supplying all of the match balls for the finals, the APIA club and officials for supplying the ground and facilities as well as their hospitality on the day, and also to all of the executive members of the Sydney Branch for their assistance in making the day a success.

A job well done by Bill Lodge as per usual in handling the microphone.

It is becoming increasingly likely that an under 17 competition will be introduced into Youth League next year in order to reduce the gap between junior and senior level.

However in order to bring in 17s it is felt that it will be necessary to leave out under 16s.

While I agree 100% with the idea of an under 17 competition, I don't believe that any progress will be made by dropping under 16s.

What this would mean is that next year's under 17s would consist mainly of this year's under 16 players and those under 15s capable of handling it.

This will not create a major problem next year as presumably the majority of this year's under 15s who did not make 17s will play at junior club level if they play at all.

However where do clubs go the year after when they have only a few under 16 players to form a nucleus of a team and no under 16s to draw from?

Surely a better solution would be to retain under 16s and either play five youth league age groups or place the 13s in the Metropolitan championships with the 11s and 12s.

Congratulations to the following teams who are representing Blacktown Association in the Champions tournament:

U9 Rooty Hill RSL, U10 Blacktown Workers, U11 Rooty Hill RSL, U12 Rooty Hill RSL, U13 Oakville United, U14 Blacktown A.G., U15 C.S.I., U16 Lethbridge Rangers, U17 Seven Hills United, U18 Prospect United, U21 Blacktown Spurs, All Age Prospect United.

NSW COACHES ASSN INDOOR SOCCER COMPETITION

At Valentine Park

U14, 16 and all age starts 12/10/87.

Registrations close 2/10/87.

For more information please phone
Ian Marriott

651 1032 or Vince Balzan
639 1093



Over the last 20 weeks players in the St George Association have been receiving intensive coaching in the skills of the game at the St George Centre of Excellence. They have met together for one hour per week to concentrate on improving their ball skills. Pictured are the group with coaches Frank Campbell and Chris James.

NEW SOUTH WALES

SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER, 1987

STATE BANK SOCCER LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

SEMI-FINALS

Wollongong City v Canberra City	1st Gd. 1-0
3rd DIVISION SEMI-FINALS	
Baulkham Hills v Rooty Hill	3rd Gd. 0-1
Campbelltown Gun. v Moorebank	2nd Gd. 2-0
West United v Rooty Hill	1st Rd. 2-1

INTER-URBAN - 2ND DIVISION

SEMI-FINALS

Concord Juniors v Greenisland	2nd Gd P/P
Rangers Hajduk v Concord Juniors	1st Gd P/P

INTER-URBAN - 3RD DIVISION

SEMI-FINALS

Mac. Yagoona v Cyprus	2nd Gd 0-2
Mac. Yagoona v Blacktown Wand.	1st Gd 3-2

INTER-URBAN - 3RD DIVISION

SEMI-FINALS

Murray Farm v Black W.	2nd Gd 4-2
Crescent Star v Cyprus	1st Gd 1-5

INTER-URBAN - 4TH DIVISION

PREMIERSHIP MATCH

Orange Waratahs v Hellas	2nd Gd 2-2
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SUNDAY 13th SEPTEMBER, 1987

SEMI-FINALS

Melita Eagles v Sutherland	2nd Gd 1-0
Blacktown City v Warringah F/W	2nd Gd 1-0
Blacktown City v Melita Eagles	1st Gd 2-0

STATE LEAGUE 2ND DIVISION

SEMI-FINAL

North Bankstown v Yugal	3rd Gd 0-1
Kingsford v Gladesville	2nd Gd 0-2
Polonia v North Bankstown	1st Gd 1-0
Kingsford v Queens Park	3rd Gd 1-2
Polonia v Avala	2nd Gd 0-2

FAIRY MEADOW v KINGSFORD

Fairy Meadow v Kingsford	1st Gd 2-4
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STATE LEAGUE 3RD DIVISION

SEMI-FINALS

Bondi Marines v Mt Druitt	3rd Gd 2-1
Rooty Hill v Baulkham Hills	2nd Gd 0-1
Granville Chile v Uni of NSW	1st Gd 0-1

INTER-URBAN - 2ND DIVISION

SEMI-FINALS

Macquarie Uni v Liverpool City	2nd Gd P/P
Greenisland v Welcome Sports	1st Gd P/P

INTER-URBAN - 4th DIVISION

SEMI-FINALS

Orange Waratahs v Arncliffe RSL	2nd Gd 3-2
Orange Waratahs v Hellas	1st Gd 1-2

INTER-URBAN - 4th DIVISION

SEMI-FINALS

Mt Pritchard v Prospect	2nd Gd 0-2
Mt Pritchard v Alexander	1st Gd 1-4

NSW AMATEURS

METROPOLITAN REPRESENTATIVES

U12: Sydney No 1: Bankstown 13 pl, 22 pts

U11: Sydney No 2: Granville 13 pl, 20 pts

U10: Sydney No 1: South Dist 13 pl, 24 pts

U9: Sydney No 2: St George 13 pl, 22 pts

NSW CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

U9: Sutherland 5

Shoalhaven 0, Macarthur 6

Highlands 0, Canterbury 3

U10: Sutherland 2

Shoalhaven 1, Macarthur 9

Highlands 1, Gladesville 5

pen, Mitchell 3, Canterbury 3

U11: Sutherland 13

Shoalhaven 0, Macarthur 9

Highlands 1, Gladesville 5

pen, Mitchell 3, Canterbury 3

U12: Sutherland 4

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 9

pen, Macarthur 10

Highlands 0, South and Eastern 1

U13: Sutherland 1

Shoalhaven 0, Granville 1

Central Coast 0, Macarthur 5

Highlands 0, South and Eastern 1

U14: Sutherland 1

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 5

pen, Macarthur 3

Highlands 2, Ku-ring-gai 4

Dubbo 0, Illawarra 7

U15: Sutherland 4

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 5

pen, Macarthur 3

Highlands 2, Ku-ring-gai 4

Dubbo 0, Illawarra 7

U16: Sutherland 1

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 5

pen, Macarthur 3

Highlands 2, Ku-ring-gai 4

Dubbo 0, Illawarra 7

U17: Sutherland 1

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 5

pen, Macarthur 3

Highlands 2, Ku-ring-gai 4

Dubbo 0, Illawarra 7

U18: Sutherland 1

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 5

pen, Macarthur 3

Highlands 2, Ku-ring-gai 4

Dubbo 0, Illawarra 7

U19: Sutherland 1

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 5

pen, Macarthur 3

Highlands 2, Ku-ring-gai 4

Dubbo 0, Illawarra 7

U20: Sutherland 1

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 5

pen, Macarthur 3

Highlands 2, Ku-ring-gai 4

Dubbo 0, Illawarra 7

U21: Sutherland 1

Shoalhaven 0, Central Coast 5

pen, Macarthur 3

Highlands 2, Ku-ring-gai 4

Dubbo 0, Illawarra 7

U151

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Syd. Olympic	26	20	2	4	91	27 42
Sydney City	26	18	6	2	55	18 48
Marconi	26	18	5	3	83	22 41
Melita	26	15	6	5	46	17 36
APIA	26	17	2	7	47	21 36
St George	26	9	13	4	35	29 31
Southern Dist	25	8	11	33	51	22
Blacktown City	24	8	12	31	35	20
Nepean	25	6	7	12	25	39 19
Illawarra	24	7	4	13	27	50 18
Ku-ring-gai	24	6	4	14	27	43 16
Central Coast	25	5	6	14	24	47 16
Canterbury	25	3	4	18	22	76 10
Gladesville	26	1	3	22	14	95 5

U161

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blacktown City	26	21	3	3	74	18 44
Marconi	26	20	3	3	67	23 38
APIA	26	17	4	5	46	17 38
St George	26	17	2	7	52	34 36
Syd. Olympic	26	14	6	6	65	25 34
Central Coast	25	9	7	9	37	37 25
Melita	25	9	6	10	36	36 24
Canterbury	25	9	5	11	27	42 23
Sydney City	26	9	14	30	62	21
Illawarra	24	5	7	12	29	18 47
Southern Dist	25	7	16	26	48	16
Ku-ring-gai	25	7	16	15	34	16
Gladesville	26	4	2	20	59	10
Nepean	25	3	3	19	17	68 9

COMBINED POINT SCORE DIV 1

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
APIA	104	73	13	18	243	79 159
Marconi	104	67	14	23	260	98 148
Syd. Olympic	104	60	20	24	238	101 140
Blacktown C.	100	61	13	25	215	102 135
Melita	103	53	20	30	183	107 125
St George	104	51	23	30	171	113 125
Canterbury	101	37	18	46	142	189 92
Sithern Dist	101	36	16	49	135	193 88
Illawarra	98	35	17	46	154	152 87
Central C.	101	25	24	52	117	184 74
Nepean	101	25	21	55	100	176 71
Sydney City	104	29	11	64	108	310 69
Ku-ring-gai	99	24	12	63	91	182 60
Gladesville	104	22	10	72	117	268 54

U132

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canterbury	26	24	1	1	142	20 49
Croatia	25	17	5	3	77	23 39
Polonia	26	17	3	6	10	18 39
Nth Bankstown	26	15	8	3	57	23 38
Sutherland	26	13	6	6	62	22 37
Manly Warringah	26	14	3	9	39	35 31
Blacktown	25	11	5	9	43	32 27
Macarthur	26	10	6	10	53	26 46
Bankstown	25	7	3	15	31	46 17
Avala	26	8	1	17	33	44 17
Uruguay Penrith	26	5	4	17	25	53 14
Rockdale	25	4	16	29	73	14
Campbelltown	26	3	3	20	19	88 9
SSC Yugal	26	1	1	24	12	119 3

U142

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia	26	25	0	1	119	5 50
Bankstown	26	18	4	4	57	21 40
Macarthur	26	17	5	4	62	23 39
Sutherland	26	19	1	6	41	14 39
Canterbury	26	14	8	4	43	36 32
Manly Warringah	26	13	5	8	37	20 31
Uruguay Penrith	26	11	3	12	43	30 25
Polonia	26	10	2	13	33	47 22
Rockdale	25	8	0	17	26	49 16
Nth Bankstown	25	4	8	13	23	48 16
SSC Yugal	26	4	16	24	55	16
Blacktown	25	4	17	17	42	15
Avala	26	3	5	18	25	68 13
Campbelltown	26	1	4	21	13	105 6

U152

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blacktown	25	22	2	1	75	7 46
Croatia	25	20	3	2	83	15 43
Canterbury	26	18	5	3	63	18 41
Polonia	26	16	2	8	45	24 34
Avala	26	13	7	6	55	32 31
Manly Warringah	26	11	4	11	44	31 26
Uruguay Penrith	26	10	5	11	35	30 25
Nth Bankstown	26	11	14	27	45	23
Bankstown	25	7	5	13	35	48 19
Macarthur	26	7	4	15	24	54 18
Rockdale	25	7	3	15	40	46 17
Sutherland	26	5	15	26	47	19
Campbelltown	26	7	2	17	25	59 16
SSC Yugal	26	1	0	25	8	127 2

U162

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sutherland	26	20	5	1	93	9 45
Croatia	25	19	4	2	94	6 42
Macarthur	26	16	7	3	52	15 39
Nth Bankstown	25	14	6	5	62	23 33
Avala	26	13	6	7	59	26 32
Rockdale	25	13	5	7	55	35 31
Manly Warringah	26	12	6	8	35	27 30
Blacktown	25	10	6	9	50	36 28
Polonia	24	10	2	12	57	64 22
Uruguay Penrith	26	7	12	39	36	21
Canterbury	26	8	3	15	41	69 19
SSC Yugal	25	4	2	19	19	61 10
Campbelltown	26	2	0	24	18	114 4
Bankstown	25	1	0	24	8	161 2

COMBINED POINT SCORE DIV 2

Moreland Mdw.	14	3	2	9	9	45	8
Keon Park	11	2	0	9	17	55	4
Northote Cy B.	13	2	0	11	7	66	4

Seaford	17	14	1	2	94	14	29
Langwarrin	16	12	2	2	66	14	26
Peninsula	16	11	2	3	86	18	24
Chelsea	16	12	0	4	57	21	17
Cranbourne	15	8	1	6	40	28	14
Baxter	16	7	1	8	23	44	13
Hampton Park	16	6	1	9	33	70	15
Berwick City	15	2	1	12	14	63	5
Skye Rovers A	17	2	1	14	15	72	5
Sth Springvale	16	1	0	15	7	91	2

Sunshine Hgts.	16	13	2	1	72	8	28
Green Gully	16	12	3	1	68	15	27
East Altona	16	12	1	3	68	16	25
Nth Geelong	16	9	0	7	47	36	18
St Albans	16	8	1	7	54	32	17
Altona City	16	8	1	7	39	25	17
Albion	16	7	0	9	43	32	14
Mossfield	16	3	0	13	9	53	6
Maribymong Utd	16	3	0	13	17	74	6
Yarraville	16	1	0	15	7	131	2

Altona Gate	16	13	3	0	56	11	27
Melton	15	8	4	3	37	15	20
Nth Sunshine	12	9	1	2	39	11	19
Wentworth	15	7	3	5	26	17	17
East Geelong	16	5	4	7	21	34	14
Sunbury	13	4	5	4	15	21	13
West United	15	5	2	8	25	32	12
Sydenham Park	14	3	2	9	25	44	8
Highpoint	15	2	4	9	19	41	8
Western Suburbs	15	2	2	11	17	45	6

Karingal	19	17	1	1	84	14	35
Lyndale A	20	16	1	3	88	23	33
Mitcham	18	16	1	1	72	19	33
Doncaster Rvrs A	20	13	4	3	67	19	29
Springvale City	18	10	1	7	58	26	21
Waverley City A	19	9	2	8	38	28	20
Glen Waverley	20	9	0	11	48	18	18
Forest Hill	18	5	2	11	24	47	12
Bulleen	18	4	2	12	27	63	10
Nunawading Cy	19	4	1	14	72	7	9
Knox City	18	2	1	15	8	97	5
Eltham	19	0	1	18	6	79	1

Clairinda	15	15	0	1	09	3	30
Lyndale B	16	13	1	2	59	17	27
Croydon City	16	13	0	3	89	12	26
Mulgrave	14	8	2	4	55	24	18
Mooroolbark	15	7	3	5	48	25	17
Waverley City B	16	7	3	9	11	51	11
Ringwood City	14	3	1	10	16	36	7
Doncaster Rvrs B	15	3	1	11	11	72	7
Belgrave Sth	13	1	1	11	11	72	3
Box Hill	14	1	0	13	4	101	2

Caulfield City	16	10	4	2	43	21	24
Box Hill A	15	10	1	4	58	15	21
Oakleigh	15	8	2	5	35	27	18
Mooroolbark	13	8	1	4	31	12	17
Clairinda	13	8	1	4	32	28	17
Sp'vale Cy Red	15	6	2	7	17	25	14
East Richmond	14	3	2	9	23	38	9
Hawthorn	11	2	1	8	11	44	5
Waverley City	14	1	2	11	11	39	4

Berwick City	16	14	2	0	66	7	30
Hampton Park	16	13	1	2	59	13	27
Cranbourne	16	8	4	4	36	29	20
Lyndale	16	8	1	7	29	10	27
Nunawading City	12	5	2	5	18	28	12
Dingley	15	5	1	9	17	26	11
Baxter A	13	4	1	8	13	34	9
Langwarrin	14	3	8	15	37	17	10
Malvern City	16	3	2	11	21	50	8
Croydon City	16	3	1	12	23	53	7

Balaclava	12	10	1	1	68	17	21
Sp'vale Cntrs A	12	7	2	3	38	19	16
Karingal	12	6	2	4	27	12	14
Ringwood City	11	5	2	4	22	27	12
Forest Hill	12	3	4	5	20	33	10
Ringwood Rvrs	13	4	2	7	28	42	10
Seaford	11	3	2	6	27	32	8
Peninsula	11	0	3	8	13	63	3

Western Suburbs	16	12	2	2	47	10	26
Prahran	16	12	2	2	44	15	26
D'cater Rvrs A	16	9	3	4	22	15	21
Heidelberg Utd	16	8	2	6	24	18	18
Nth Reservoir	16	5	7	4	18	22	17
Preston	16	7	1	8	25	19	15
Moreland Mdw.	16	4	3	8	19	12	12
Nth Geelong	16	4	3	9	19	36	11
Essendon City	16	4	2	10	19	31	10
Northern Utd	16	1	2	13	16	51	4

Northote City	14	10	3	1	42	15	23
S' shine Hts A	15	10	3	2	34	18	23
Clifton Hill	14	7	4	3	32	20	18
East Altona	14	6	5	3	38	27	17
Bundoora	14	6	2	6	31	29	14
Brunswick City	14	4	4	6	19	24	12
Wentworth	15	3	2	10	20	38	8
Green Gully	14	2	3	9	10	29	7
Footscray	14	3	0	11	23	49	6

Sunshine Park	15	11	2	2	51	15	24
Lalor Utd A	13	10	2	1	41	10	22
S' shine Hts B	15	10	2	3	40	15	22
Greensborough	13	9	0	4	36	17	18
Holland Park	12	4	4	4	22	14	12
Albion	14	4	3	7	28	39	11
Sunbury	14	5	1	8	24	41	11
S.S.G.X.	14	1	0	13	14	44	2
Mossfield Rings	14	1	0	13	11	72	2

B.U. Juventus B	13	12	1	0	57	5	25
Lalor	13	9	2	2	34	12	20
Watsonia	13	7	2	4	29	17	16
East Geelong	11	6	1	4	25	21	13
Meadow Park	11	5	0	6	23	23	10
Melton	13	2	3	8	14	37	7
Eltham	14	3	1	10	20	47	7
West Utd	13	2	2	9	10	40	6

Melb Croatia	15	14	1	0	57	17	29
B.U. Juventus A	15	8	4	3	29	19	20
Fawkner	16	7	5	4	29	18	19
Thomastown	14	7	2	5	19	23	16
Sp'vale City	16	6	3	7	18	29	13
Altona City	14	5	3	6	20	20	13
Sth Springvale	12	5	1	6	22	26	11
St Albans	14	4	3	7	24	31	11
Mitcham	13	4	1	8	30	39	9
Brighton A	15	0	1	14	16	45	1

Sp'vale City A	15	11	3	1	40	17	25
Malvern City	14	9	2	3	26	17	19
Nunawading City	14	8	3	3	30	17	20
Waverley Utd	14	6	4	2	15	16	16
Clairinda	14	7	2	5	36	29	16
Caulfield City	14	6	2	6	18	15	14
Waverley City	14	3	3	8	18	36	9
Skye Rovers A	15	1	3	11	15	38	5
Mooroolbark	14	1	2	11	20	42	4

East Richmond	15	13	2	0	69	14	28
Forest Hill	15	12	1	2	60	17	25
Doncaster Rvrs	14	9	3	2	50	18	21
Mitcham	14	8	2	4	24	17	18
Keysborough	13	6	1	6	32	24	13
Karingal	14	3	2	6	24	35	8
Sth Melb Hls B	13	3	0	10	15	32	6

Beaumaris	12	1	1	10	19	52	3
East Bentleigh	12	0	0	12	5	89	0

Mordialloc	6	5	0	1	23	2	10
Ferntree Gully	6	5	0	1	19	2	10
Mulgrave	5	4	0	1	26	2	8
Chelsea	5	2	0	3	16	13	4
Clayton	5	2	0	3	3	19	4
Sp'vale Condors	2	0	0	2	0	6	0
East Richmond B	4	0	0	4	1	18	0
Sp'vale Cy B	3	0	0	3	0	26	0

Dandenong City	16	14	1	1	114	10	29
Berwick City	16	11	3	2	50	13	25
Oakleigh B	16	12	1	3	44	13	25
Port Melbourne	16	9	3	4	54	22	21
Doveton	15	8	1	6	25	26	17
Croydon City B	15	5	5	5	24	14	15
Glen Waverley	16	3	0	10	16	61	9
Mornington B	16	2	4	10	55	8	8
Hastings	16	2	2	12	11	68	6
Frankston Pines	16	1	1	14	8	74	3

Lalor	16	13	2	1	46	19	28
Heidelberg Utd	16	12	3	1	60	10	27
Fawkner	15	8	5	2	29	10	21
Bulleen	16	7	2	7	28	22	16
Thomastown	17	7	2	8	30	26	16
Preston B	15	5	3	6	12	16	13
Northote Cy A	16	3	4	9	18	36	10
North Reservoir	16	3	4	9	19	49	10
Melb Croatia	16	3	3	10	16	55	9
Pascoe Vale	15	2	4	9	19	32	8

New C'wood Utd	14	9	4	1	44	9	22
B.U. Juventus B	15	9	3	3	37	20	21
Regent	14	7	5	2	26	14	19
Moreland Mdw.	14	5	4	5	16	23	14
Broadmeadows	15	5	3	7	31	30	13
Greensborough	14	4	5	5	21	26	13
Northote Cy B	12	5	3	4	19	26	13
Bundoora	13	1	2	10	13	46	4
Lalor Utd	11	1	1	9	13	26	3

Croydon City A	16	12	3	1	45	9	27
Preston A	16	11	2	3	42	14	24
B.U. Juventus A	16	6	7	3	18	10	19
Altona Gate A	15	8	2	5	25	17	18
Seaford	15	8	2	5	22	15	17
St Albans	16	6	5	5	19	15	17
Oakleigh A	16	4	6	6	25	24	14
Sth Melb Hls A	14	3	5	6	12	24	11
Mornington A	16	3	1	12	15	45	7
Sp'vale Utd	16	0	1	15	6	55	1

Green Gully.....	16	13	2	1	55	8	28
Geelong.....	16	12	0	4	43	19	24
G.X.....	16	9	4	3	40	18	22
Traralgon.....	16	8	3	5	29	23	19
Traralgon.....	16	7	1	8	38	22	15
Traralgon.....	16	4	6	6	27	22	14
Traralgon City.....	16	5	4	7	23	25	14
Traralgon City.....	16	4	6	6	19	32	14
Traralgon City.....	16	2	2	12	7	51	6
Traralgon.....	16	2	0	13	14	74	4

OLYMPIC CELEBRATES CHAMPIONSHIP

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL

SYDNEY Olympic finally celebrated their first ever Youth League Championship with an emphatic 6-2 drubbing of Melita at home last Sunday.

Mathematically the young Olympians won the League a few weeks ago but it was last Sunday when this well oiled machine afforded themselves a lap of honour in front of their joyful fans, following their best performance of the year.

During the week Croatia cemented the final spot in the top five, downing Uruguay 6-2 with Krslovic and Ciscato each scoring twice and Voloder and Kardum adding the extras.

Also on Thursday evening APIA snuffed out any slim chance of Melita qualifying for the top three with a 2-0 win, Tony Pisano and Tony Parison scoring the goals.

On Sunday Manly and Sutherland "fought" out a tough encounter and despite having seven players booked and two sent off Manly held on to win 2-1, Steve Wassell and Mark Burke being the scorers.

Finally, Croatia shocked APIA 3-1 at home with Tony Krslovic scoring a fine hat trick, his fifth goal in four days.

OLYMPIC 6 MELITA 2

Olympic were magnificent in their final league match of the season, Melita were out-classed in every department having no answer despite going into the lead after only five minutes.

Trevor Daley collected the ball 10 metres from the

area following a corner, and after controlling drove low and hard leaving Londos no chance as it flew into the corner.

From then on the contest was over, Olympic for a short time seemed unable to break down the Eagles defence and were looking frustrated. A shot in the 18th minute was deflected onto the post by Andrew Blow and all Olympic moves came to grief before they were reaching the area.

It was Marshall Soper that instigated the break through for Olympic in the 28th minute. After dashing into the box and rounding the keeper, Soper was up-ended by a defender and Steve Chilas completed the formalities from the spot, hitting the ball high into the net.

Just a minute later Manly Spanoudakis put Olympic in front, slamming the ball into the roof of the net from close range after Chilas had broken away. Olympic should have improved their advantage in the 32nd minute but Harry Adamou missed an open goal.

The score remained a 2-1 till the break with Olympic always in control and Melita rarely looking threatening.

Two minutes into the second half Soper delicately chipped the ball into the path of Spanoudakis, who with only the keeper to beat hit the post.

In the 63rd minute Olympic began an incredible assault on the Eagles goal. Steve Chilas spun in the area and netted the third via the post to give Olympic a handy two goal advantage.

Paul Rago breathed a new lease of life as he only briefly with a cracking shot from 30 metres for the

Eagles and Olympic's lead was cut to just one.

Defender Nick Pirtanotis headed Olympic back to a two goal advantage in the 75th minute.

Fullback David Barrett almost completed a hat-trick in a four minute spell. In the 76th minute his diving header hit the bar, in the 78th he netted with a long range dipping shot for Olympic's fifth and in the 80th minute he raced onto a through ball from Spanoudakis and easily beat the advancing keeper to complete Olympic's day of celebration.

OLYMPIC: Londos (Sakson), Barrett, Georgakis, Pirtanotis, Briggs, Genaris, Hrist (Referee), Adamou (Lardis), Chilas, Spanoudakis, Soper.

MELITA: Shute (Blake), Daley, Myles, Ashton, Pidcock, Dickinson, Pratt, Rago, Bath, Versi.

MANLY 2 SUTHERLAND 1

All at stake in this State Bank League Club affair was pride, as both Manly and Sutherland had failed to qualify for the top five play offs.

With the sides separated by a point the prestige of finishing in 7th place and the second highest of the State League sides behind Melita were also at stake.

The match was a battle, Manly were left in tatters, seven players booked and two sent off yet they hung on bravely to beat Sutherland into 7th place.

The first half was scoreless and it wasn't until the 20th minute of the second half that the deadlock was broken.

Following a melee in the Sutherland area Steve Wassell shot through a crowded area to give Manly the lead in the 65th minute.

Manly then lost two players, David Logan in

the 70th minute and Scott England in the 75th minute both sent off, and suddenly the Seasiders were battling with only nine men.

Despite the set back sub. Mark Burke increased Manly's lead once again after a scuffle in the area. Burke blasted in from the edge of the area in the 82nd minute.

Sutherland finally pulled a goal back a minute into injury time but Manly took all the honours after a brave performance with two men short towards the end.

MANLY: Beckett, Reeves (Burke), Chung, Vale, Logan, Ure, Greaves, Glascock, Willis, England, Wassell. Best Players: Andrew Vale, Steve Wassell, Francis Chung.

SUTHERLAND: Tilla, Babb, Ashton, Long, Christodoulou, Murry, Nelson, Giovenco, Barr, Lardis, Mellier.

CROATIA 3 APIA 1

APIA's chance of qualifying second took a severe jolt from the inferior Croatia last Sunday.

Both APIA and Croatia scored vital wins the previous Thursday and Croatia needed only a point from this clash with APIA to assure themselves of a finals place.

Tony Krslovic, Croatia's ace striker, netted twice in the first period with Vince Speranza replying for the visitors.

The sides will front up again on Thursday evening, the result however is purely academic, with APIA playing St. George and Croatia playing Melita in next week's semis.

CROATIA: Vuletic, McLean, Sekulic, Stipic, Whant, Grubbs, Voloder, Kardum, Krslovic, Kero, Tomic.

APIA: Greedy, Ancora, Bakirtsis, Papoythis, Criticos, Hadden, Koukounaris, Zullo, Masi, Speranza, Pisano.

WORST INJURY: I had a cartilage removed from my left leg last year and missed about 12 games.

MOST PROMISING TEAMMATE: George Slivkas.

HARDEST OPPONENT: Brian Brown.

FAVOURITE ALL TIME PLAYERS: Bobby Charlton and Andy Gray.

BOOT TYPE: None in particular.

BEST WORLD XI: The Brazil team of 1970.

AMBITIONS FOR 87: To finish in the top five.

LONG TERM AMBITIONS: To be successful both playing and at work and to retire before I'm 35.



STEVE SMITH

Preston Makedonia

PLAYER PROFILE

NAME: Steven Clifford Smith

BIRTHPLACE and DATE: Birmingham, England 13/1/61

HEIGHT and WEIGHT: 5ft. 10½in.; 12 stone

MARRIED: No

HOME: South Yarra, Melbourne

CAR: Camira

NICKNAME: Smudger

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Walsall, Wits University (South Africa) and Box Hill.

OCCUPATION: Sales engineer.

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Charlie Egan.

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Most sports, particularly golf, snooker and cricket.

FAVOURITE GROUND: Olympic Park.

HOLIDAY RESORT: Benidorm, Spain.

MUSIC: Simply Red, Phil Collins and Sting.

FAVOURITE POSITION: Striker.

ACTOR/ESS: Zoran Illoski and Meryl Streep.

MOVIE: Midnight Express.

TV SHOW: Minder and Yes Minister.

DISH: Indian Curry.

DRINK: Fosters Lager.

LIKES: Winning and being with friends.

DISLIKES: Losing.

INTERNATIONAL GAMES: None.

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Playing in South Africa with Wits University away to all-black team Kaiser Chiefs in front of 50,000 fans in Soweto.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing to Juventus in the 1985 Southern Division Grand Final.

WEST END PREMIER CUP

BY TOM MCKAIN

THREE teams will have key players returning on Saturday for the second legs of the SA West End Premier Cup involving the top eight clubs.

Away to Para Hills after a 2-1 home win, League and Coca Cola Cup champions Hellas can call in midfielder Steve Atsalas, who was rested last Saturday and in defence John Pangis should resume after being a flu victim.

Salisbury, 2-1 home winners over Beograd, have defender Gordon Haig back after suspension while Beograd will reintroduce striker Richard Preston fully fit, David Loktefe back in defence after suspension and all rounder Andrew Brazzle available after missing the first leg.

Croatia, who held Campbelltown 1-1 at the latter's ground, will welcome back central defender Zoran Maricic after a

two game suspension, while the Red Devils have striker Chris Key returning after his enforced "holiday."

Midfielder David Doorne celebrated his Rothmans medal win by inspiring Polonia to a 4-1 home win over Lion and that should be enough to see his team into the semi-finals when they visit the Grange ground on Saturday.

It would take an impressive performance from Lion to make up the three goal deficit.

The other games should again be close with extra time possible in all three.

Hellas, going for the treble, maybe in trouble as they want to rest players, particularly giant defender Chris Manou who is carrying a groin injury, for the West End National League qualifying play-offs.

It took two penalties from Youth Soccer Lou Hristodoulou to sink Para

RETURNS

in the first leg, and even then the district side was able to pull back one goal.

Croatia now looks much stronger with Maricic back and fellow defender John Slager free of a flu virus he carried last week.

Croatia must be considered favourites at home against Campbelltown.

Beograd, also at home look good, but Salisbury are renowned for being able to defend when it counts, and may just be able to survive what should be a torrid opening half.

This will be the final Saturday program in for the SA state teams as the semi-finals and final of the West End Premier Cup will be played under lights at Hindmarsh Stadium on Wednesday night September 23 with the final the following Wednesday.

VICTORIAN INDUSTRIAL & AMATEUR

MEKO LOOKS FOR DOUBLE

WITH their win over Australian Airline, Meko Holdings have made sure of the League Championship, and will be looking now to repeating the League and Cup double.

Needing at least a point to make their position safe, Meko had only occasional worries in accounting for a very determined Australian Airlines 5 goals to 2. The Airlines, however, had some revenge in denying Meko either of the top positions in Division 1 Reserves.

Glenroy Doxa made sure of the Reserves Championship with a determined 2-0 victory over ANZ Bank.

Middle Park will be runners-up in both the League Championship and in Division 1 Reserves. With their two wins, the Parkers made it impossible for anyone to catch them in either section.

The only interest left in Division 2 is deciding who will be runners-up, and who will escape relegation. Highpoint have won both the League and the Reserves Competitions, but runners-up in the Firsts is still an open issue between Fibremakers United and Footscray United. On balance, Fibremakers are favoured.

Needing at least a point to be totally certain of the Championship, Highpoint were in no mood to show any mercy, and overwhelmed Kiew Deaf 6-1. Milkevic led the way with a hat-trick, and the other goal scorers were Marusic, Kovko and Govic.

Taxation United lifted themselves a point clear of

relegation with a 10-2 demolition of St Bernards Old Collegians. Taxation split their goals 5 in each half, with Shane O'Connell collecting 5, Steve Gutteridge 3 and Greg Sheehan 2. Reflecting the 'College' lack of height across the back-line, six of the goals were headed.

Northern Cross/St Helena and Bowater Scott will be Champions and Runners-up of Division 3 East. The Northerners need only a point from the Scotties in next week's encounter to sew it up; while if Bowater win, they still have to get through Ferris United the following week to take the 'Championship on goal difference.

Northern Cross kept themselves in front with a convincing 3-0 win over Ferris United, while the Scotties had a very lucky 5-0 victory over Oakleigh City (lucky it was not 10-0). Paul Sullivan notched 3 of their goals, with singles to the ageless Hugh Shaw, and dangerous Dan (sorry, Jock) Davidson.

The Division 3 West Championship has been decided. St Albans Dynamo are four points clear and untouchable. The fate of the minor pennant will be decided in next week's clash between Dallas United and Altona Heights. Dallas need only a point, but a win to the Heights would see them into the coveted second position.

A win to Dandy Dynamo and the Division 4 race would have been all over. But Dandy slipped up! Stirred by the big game challenge and our unkind reflection on their fitness in last week's issue, Sunbury trained with extra endeavour and ran the

talented Dynamos to a 90 minutes standstill.

It was a scoreless draw, but the match lacked no excitement. Either team could have won. It was only desperate defence and the odd ounce of luck which kept the two scoresheets blank. But the result kept interest in next week's round at fever pitch.

RESCHEDULED MATCHES

27th September, 1987
Rowville v Flamingo
Nippondenso v Windsor
Ferris United v Bowater Scott

CUP SEMI-FINALS 27th September, 1987

BLACK DOUGLAS CUP:
Meko Holdings v Altona North Tarxien
Glenroy Doxa v Altona Heights

INVITATION CUP:
Glenroy Doxa v Highpoint
Altona Ilinden v Taxation United

WOMEN'S

THE International Soccer evening held at the Castle Hill Soccer Club complex at Fred Caterston Reserve against Auckland turned out to be a huge success thanks to the Holroyd Ladies Soccer Association.

Although Auckland took out the honours in the under 17 match, the game was played in great spirit.

The attendance was excellent. After the match we held a bbq which was first class.

The Auckland contingent was full of praise for the Holroyd Association, not only for its playing performance, but for the catering of their players and officials, the administration and the support of the Castle Hill Club. From Phil Witcombe (Holroyd President)

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REAL Madrid made a flying start to the defence of its Spanish title with a 4-0 win over Cadiz.

FIJI has requested a special conditional entry for the 1990 World Cup soccer tournament, Fiji Football Association secretary J D Maharaj said in Suva.

The Association has written to the International Football Federation (FIFA) saying it has reversed a previous decision not to take part.

But it asked whether, if the political and economic situation in Fiji had not improved before the elimination matches start next year, Fiji could withdraw without monetary penalty.

The approach had been suggested by the Oceania Soccer Federation, Mr Maharaj said.

The island nation is currently battling a political, constitutional and economic crisis following a military coup in May.

Fiji is including in the Oceania Group for the World Cup eliminations, along with Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa, Taiwan and Israel.

THE entire 15 man board of the Turkish Football Federation has resigned in protest over what they believe to be an unwarranted interference in their affairs by the country's courts which overruled the Federation's decision to relegate Kocaelispor from the first division for alleged match rigging.

The English FA will postpone first division matches on November 7 when England are set to meet Yugoslavia in the European Championship.

THE English FA has made it clear to its clubs that they will ban clubs from playing in Europe even if UEFA allows them back into competition.

BARCELONA's English boss Terry Venables is in deep bother after his side lost their third successive match in the Spanish first division, 2-0 to Espanol.

CONSTANT Press criticism and disagreement with his federation's recent relaxation of the rules over players joining foreign clubs were cited by Jozsef Verebes as the major reasons for him resigning as Hungarian national team coach. Verebes will now concentrate upon guiding his club, MTK Budapest.

PICTURED below is QPR's goalscoring whizz GARY BANNISTER on the ball. He cracked at hat-trick at Chelsea's expense on the weekend.

WERDER Bremen surged back to the top of the West German league after Frank Ordenechitz hit a hat-trick in the 5-1 win over Stuttgart.

ITALIAN millionaires Inter-Milan refused to release star midfielder Enzo Scifo for Belgium's friendly international against the Netherlands.

BAYERN Munich's recent 3-2 loss to Hamburg marked their first loss in the Bundesliga for almost ten months!

WEST German international winger Pierre Littbarski has returned to Koln after just one year with Racing Club Paris; he and his family having failed to settle in the French capital. The transfer fee was not disclosed.

SWITZERLAND and Austria drew their friendly international at St Gallen 2-2.

THE UK UPDATE

ENGLAND international central defender Mark Wright has moved from Southampton to Derby County in a \$1,520,000 transfer deal.

FA Cup holder Coventry City is seething over the last-minute cancellation of its planned seven-day trip to Trinidad to meet Uruguayan team Liverpool.

ARSENAL is poised for some hectic activity in the transfer market with striker Charlie Nicholas and Niall Quinn on their way from Highbury and West Ham's Tony Cottee and Sheffield Wednesday's Brian Marwood earmarked for Gunners' bids.

CHELSEA fullback Steve Clarke and Rangers' 20-year-old midfielder Ian Durrant were to make their international debuts for Scotland in the friendly international against Hungary in Glasgow.

RON Saunders, sacked as manager of West Bromwich Albion after an unhappy 18-month reign, may now quit football.

THE local council in Sir Stanley Matthews' home city, Stoke, is to erect a life sized statue of the former England great.

EXPATRIOT English international Mark Hateley is French football's leading scorer with seven goals for his Monaco club.

MANCHESTER United have transferred Danish international midfielder John Sivebaek to St Etienne. The transfer fee was \$680,000.

ENGLAND will play Israel in a full international at Tel Aviv on February 17th of next year in a game to commemorate the 60th anniversary of football in Israel.

FORMER Manchester United and Arsenal striker Frank Stapleton, now with Ajax Amsterdam, is only two goals short of Don Givens' all-time scoring record of 19 for the Republic of Ireland. He aimed to reduce the 'leeway' against Luxembourg in the European Nations Cup game in Dublin.

At right is Spurs' CLIVE ALLEN. 49 goals last year and going great guns this time around also.



GARY Bannister hit a second-half hat-trick as Queens Park Rangers thrashed London rival Chelsea 3-1 to take a five-point lead at the top of the English soccer first division.

Tottenham grabbed second spot with a late win over Southampton and Manchester United held on for a draw to secure third place.

On the controversial plastic pitch at Loftus Road, Chelsea held table-topping QPR goalless in a competitive first half but Bannister struck 11 minutes after the resumption to turn the tide.

The 27-year-old striker added his second midway through the term and pounced again a minute from time before Gordon Durie grabbed a late consolation goal for Chelsea.

At White Hart Lane, Graham Baker rocked Tottenham with a 15th minute goal before Belgian striker Nico Claesen equalised right on half-time.

High-scoring Clive Allen grabbed the winner a minute before the end to boost Tottenham into second place and give the club its 14th consecutive home win to break a record that has stood for 68 years.

At Old Trafford, Brazilian strike Mirandinha pierced the gloom for his new club, Newcastle United with two first-half goals that had highly-fancied Manchester United trailing.

Danish international Jesper Olsen replied with the equaliser two minutes later but Mirandinha, the first Brazilian ever to play in the 100-year-old English league, struck again just before the half hour.

Brian McClair, United's gifted off-season buy from Celtic, made it 2-2 with a goal a minute before the break and it stayed that way through a rugged second season.

At Anfield, Liverpool's well-organized defence, so impressive in recent weeks, shut out the outclassed Osford to score a 2-0 win.

At Fratton Park, Portsmouth's Ian Baird was sent off in the 35th minute when he fouled Charlton defender Paul Miller, his second offence of a match marked by late challenges.

Mark Stuart punished Portsmouth further with a goal just before the break but Irish international Mick Quinn equalised 15 minutes from the end.

Upton Park saw plenty of niggly play also. West Ham midfielder Mark Ward lasted 29 minutes before being dismissed for a foul on Wimbledon's Dennis Wise, just nine minutes after Wise had put the visitors in front.

But Tony Cottee put the East London club on level terms 15 minutes into the second half to secure the Hammers' second 1-1 draw in a week, after holding off Liverpool the previous week.

At Hillsborough, Gary Porter and Worrell Sterling put Watford ahead inside the first 20 minutes but Sheffield Wednesday pulled one back through Colin West in the 39th minute and Lee Chapman equalised soon after the break.

Then Trevor Senior, so prolific with third division Reading last season, proved his first-division credentials with Watford's third midway through the second half of an exciting match.





ITALIAN league and cup double winner Napoli extended its total cup victories to 18 with a 2-0 win over Triestina in Udine this week. The club's star imports, Argentina's Diego Maradona and Brazil's Careca, scored the goals.



INJURY hit Sheffield Wednesday are ready to take on Liverpool and Manchester United in the \$1 million chase for Middlesbrough defender Gary Pallister.

A FEUD between Brazil's top soccer clubs and the Football Association has threatened the start of their national league championship.

GLASGOW Celtic is ready to make a new bid for Arsenal's disgruntled Scottish international striker Charlie Nicholas, who is to have a showdown with Gunners manager George Graham.

Police used tear gas to quell a mutiny by 200 prisoners angered by preferential treatment for British soccer fans facing trial for the 1985 Heysel stadium riot.

Officials said six officers and several inmates were slightly injured in the fray at Forest Prison, south-west of Brussels. One prisoner was in hospital after a heart attack.

Officials said prisoners refused to return to their cells after afternoon exercise, shouting: "Hooligans, three-star treatment." It was a reference to 26 Liverpool fans who will be extradited to Belgium to face trial for the May 29, 1985, Heysel riot in which 39 people died.

The inmates burned mattresses and furniture and broke windows in a wing of the jail, shouting defiance for five hours until two assaults by special riot police using tear gas subdued the mutiny.

The outbreak came after Belgian media showed pictures of the cells in Louvain Jail in which the Liverpool suspects will be held for the trial, due to start at the end of the year.

The cells, in a renovated wing, feature new furniture, comfortable beds, bookshelves, built-in modern sanitary facilities and have access to games and television.

In contrast, Forest Prison, used to hold male and female prisoners, is grossly overcrowded and rundown, according to opposition politicians.

EACH of the 24 teams taking part in the World Cup finals in Italy in 1990 can expect to receive at least \$A1.94 million from the International Football Federation, the game's ruling body.

The president of FIFA, Joao Havelange, said all finalists would receive \$A554,000 a match. With a minimum of three games each in the first phase that amounts to a \$A1.66 million windfall.

Havelange expects that the competing nations would also receive a "bonus" of \$A277,000 from FIFA.

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Sunday 4.30pm

Les Murray presents a complete coverage of the most important match of the day, with expert commentators Mike Hill and Johnny Warren calling all the action.

SPORT REPORT

Monday 8.30pm

A comprehensive review of Sunday's West End Soccer League matches. You'll see highlights, interviews, and get the real stories behind the results from Andrew Paschalidis and Kyle Patterson.



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